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# Headquarters Expeditionary Troops Task Force 56

## Report On Forager

U.S. Pacific fleet. Task  
force 56.

Report of commanding gen-  
eral, Forager operation  
(Marianas)

### Enclosures:

- A— OPERATION PLAN 3-44
- B— G-5 REPORT
- C— G-3 REPORT
- D— G-2 REPORT
- E— G-4 REPORT
- F— G-1 REPORT
- G— SPECIAL STAFF OFFICERS REPORTS

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1. REPORT DATE <b>APR 1944</b>		2. REPORT TYPE <b>N/A</b>		3. DATES COVERED <b>-</b>	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE <b>Headquarters Expeditionary Troops Task Force 56, Report On Forager</b>				5a. CONTRACT NUMBER	
				5b. GRANT NUMBER	
				5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER	
6. AUTHOR(S)				5d. PROJECT NUMBER	
				5e. TASK NUMBER	
				5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER	
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) <b>U.S. Marine Corps</b>				8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER	
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)				10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S)	
				11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)	
12. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT <b>Approved for public release, distribution unlimited</b>					
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES <b>JFSC - WW II Declassified Records.</b>					
14. ABSTRACT					
15. SUBJECT TERMS					
16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:			17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT <b>SAR</b>	18. NUMBER OF PAGES <b>90</b>	19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON
a. REPORT <b>unclassified</b>	b. ABSTRACT <b>unclassified</b>	c. THIS PAGE <b>unclassified</b>			

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# Headquarters Expeditionary Troops Task Force 56

## OPERATION PLAN

Number 3-44

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Enclosure A

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1990-5-45  
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Expeditionary Troops  
Task Force Fifty-Six  
In the Field

26 April 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: Holders of Expeditionary Troops Operation Plan  
No. 2-44 - FORAGER, dated 11 April 1944.

1. This Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER, with Annexes, supersedes Operation Plan No. 2-44 and all Annexes thereto.
2. Holders of Operation Plan No. 2-44 are requested to destroy that Plan and all Annexes thereto by burning, and notify this Headquarters when this has been done.

*G. B. Erskine*  
G. B. ERSKINE,  
BrigGen., U.S. Marine Corps,  
Chief of Staff.

1990-5-45  
0170/194  
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Expeditionary Troops  
Task Force Fifty-Six  
In the Field

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5 May 1944

Change No. 1 to Expeditionary Troops Operation Plan No. 3-44  
- FORAGER.

1. Change No. 1 to Expeditionary Troops Operation Plan No. 3-44 and Annexes has been incorporated in the following pages transmitted herewith:

Annex ABLE, Task Organization, page 1.

Appendix No. 1 to Annex HOW, Signal Communication.

Annex ITEM, Landing Force Command Relations, page 3.

2. These pages will be inserted upon receipt and superceded pages will be destroyed by burning, no report of destruction being required.


BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL HOLLAND M. SMITH.

G. B. ERSKINE,  
BrigGen., U.S. Marine Corps,  
Chief of Staff.

DISTRIBUTION:

Same as Expeditionary Troops Operation Plan No. 3-44.

O F F I C I A L:

  
J. C. McQUEEN,  
Colonel, USMC,  
Asst. CofS, G-3.

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Expeditionary Troops  
Task Force Fifty-Six  
In the Field

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26 April 1944 (Chge No.1  
5 May 44.)

Annex ABLE to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

### TASK ORGANIZATION

Expeditionary Troops (TF 56) - LtGen H. M. Smith USMC

Det H & S Bn VPhibCorps  
Det Sig Bn VPhibCorps  
Det MarSupServ VPhibCorps

a. NORTHERN Troops and Landing Force (TG 56.1) -  
LtGen H. M. Smith USMC

Corps Troops

H & S Bn VPhibCorps (less Dets)  
Sig Bn VPhibCorps (less Dets)  
Corps Arty  
XXIV Army Corps Arty  
Phib Recon Bn VPhibCorps (less Co A)  
Hq Prov Engr Group VPhibCorps  
MT Co VPhibCorps (less Dets)  
7th Field Depot (less Dets)  
Med Bn VPhibCorps  
31st Field Hosp (Army)  
2d Prov Portable Surg Hosp (Army)  
3d Prov Portable Surg Hosp (Army)  
2dMarDiv (Reinf) (less 1stBn 2d Marines)  
4thMarDiv (Reinf)  
1stBn 2d Marines, Co A Phib Recon Bn  
VPhibCorps atchd  
SAIPAN Garrison Force (TG 10.13)  
TINIAN Garrison Force (TG 10.12)

b. SOUTHERN Troops and Landing Force (TG 56.2) -  
MajGen Geiger USMC

Corps Troops

H & S Bn IIIPhibCorps (less Dets)  
Sig Bn IIIPhibCorps (less Dets)  
MT Bn IIIPhibCorps (less Dets)  
Med Bn IIIPhibCorps (Reinf)  
Corps Arty  
Corps Arty IIIPhibCorps  
5th Field Depot  
53d N C B  
3dMarDiv (Reinf)  
1st ProvMarBrig (Reinf)  
GUAM Garrison Force (TG 10.11)

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Appendix 1 (Revised 1 May) to Annex HOW to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

(Chge No.1  
5 May 44.)

Expeditionary Troops Radio Nets	Expeditionary Troops Command Net	Expeditionary Troops Command Net	Landing Force Command Net	Task Force Commanders	Shore Party Lateral 2nd MarDiv	Shore Party Lateral 4th MarDiv
Emission	CW	VOICE	VOICE	CW	VOICE	VOICE
Frequency	4750 KCS.	2956 KCS.	29.2 MCS.	4420 KCS.	2516 KCS.	2154 KCS.
CG, Expeditionary Troops	X	X	X	A	L	L
CG, Northern Troops & Landing Force	X	X	X			
CG, Southern Troops & Landing Force	W	W	W1			
Expeditionary Troops Reserve	X		X			
All Task Force Commanders				X		

Notes: A. Operates in this circuit when ashore and in command.  
Other units (Corps or Divisions) operate in this circuit  
when senior in command ashore.

L. Listens, may transmit.

W. Commences to operate in this net at H - 4 on W Day.

W1. Operates from H - 4 on W Day if CGExpTrps is in vicinity  
of STEVEDORE.


BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL HOLLAND M. SMITH:

G. B. ERSKINE,  
BrigGen., U. S. Marine Corps,  
Chief of Staff.

DISTRIBUTION:

Same as Operation Plan No. 3-44.

OFFICIAL:

  
J. C. McQUEEN,  
Colonel, USMC,  
Asst. CofS, G-3.

Appendix 1 to  
Copy No.

C. RELATIONS IN DETAIL

1. The Commander Joint Expeditionary Force commands all task organizations employed in the amphibious operations at all objectives through inter-related Attack Force Commanders. The Commanding General Expeditionary Troops will be embarked on the flag-ship of the Commander Joint Expeditionary Force or stationed ashore when the situation requires, and will command all landing and garrison forces that are ashore.

2. At each objective, the related Commander Attack Force will command the Landing Force through the related Commander Landing Force for ship to shore operations. As soon as the Commander Landing Force determines that the status of the landing operations permits, he will assume command on shore and report that fact to the related Commander Attack Force. For shore to shore operations the landing forces will be under the direct command of Commanders of Landing Forces and naval craft and supporting forces will be under the direct command of the Naval Commander of the Attack Forces concerned or an officer designated by him. As desired, requests for naval gunfire support and air support will be made to the related Commander Attack Force by the Commander of Landing Forces.

3. Landing Forces, as their respective commanders assume command ashore, will be under the overall command of the Commanding General Expeditionary Troops. This officer will retain command of all forces established on each island until the Commander Central Pacific Task Forces has determined that the capture and occupation phase at each island has been completed. The Commander Central Pacific Task Forces will then direct that the command of all forces at that island pass to the Island Commander.

4. The Island Commander at each objective will assume responsibility for the defense and development of the objectives when directed by the Commander Central Pacific Task Forces.

5. Island Commanders are under command of the Troop and Landing Forces Commanders until withdrawal of assault forces; thereafter they are under direct command of the Commanding General Expeditionary Troops until the latter is relieved of this responsibility. Island Commanders will exercise command over all units of the Garrison Forces, except such as may be temporarily attached to Landing Forces.



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U.S. Pacific Fleet. Task Force 56.  
" HEADQUARTERS,  
FLEET MARINE FORCE, PACIFIC,  
C/O FLEET POST OFFICE, SAN FRANCISCO.

2 October 1944.

From: The Commanding General.  
To : Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet  
and Pacific Ocean Areas.

Via : (1) Commander Amphibious Forces Pacific.  
(2) Commander FIFTH Fleet.

Subject: Report of Commanding General, Expeditionary  
Troops, Task Force 56, FORAGER.

Enclosures: (A) Expeditionary Troops, Task Force 56,  
Operation Plan 3-44.  
(B) G-5 Report - Planning.  
(C) G-3 Report - Operations.  
(D) G-2 Report - Intelligence.  
(E) G-4 Report - Logistics.  
(F) G-1 Report - Personnel.  
(G) Special Staff Officers' Reports.  
(1) Air  
(2) Naval Gunfire  
(3) Engineer  
(4) Signal  
(5) Medical  
(6) Transport Quartermaster  
(7) Public Relations

1. Submitted herewith is the report of the Commanding General, Expeditionary Troops, Task Force 56 for Operation FORAGER.

2. Expeditionary Troops, Task Force 56, was activated 1 May 1944 in compliance with Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet and Pacific Ocean Areas Operation Plan 3-44 of 23 April 1944. Its mission, as established by directives from higher headquarters was, with forces mounted in the HAWAIIAN Islands, SOLOMON Islands, and on the west coast of the United States, and as a task force of the FIFTH Fleet operating with the support of all forces in the Pacific Ocean Areas, to capture, occupy, and defend SAIPAN, TINIAN, and GUAM, and be prepared for further amphibious operations. Between 14 and 16 May the headquarters and those troops of Task Force 56 mounted in the HAWAIIAN Area were engaged in a full-scale dress rehearsal for the operation on beaches at MAALAE BAY, MAUI, and on KAHOO LAWE Island. The period 29 May to 15 June was spent en-route to the target area from PEARL HARBOR. Northern Troops and

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Subject: Report of Commanding General, Expeditionary  
Troops, Task Force 56, FORAGER.

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Landing Force, Task Group 56.1, landed on SAIPAN on 15 June 1944. The island was announced secured on 9 July 1944. Southern Troops and Landing Force, Task Group 56.2, landed on GUAM on 21 July 1944. The island was announced secured on 10 August 1944. Northern Troops and Landing Force, Task Group 56.1, landed on TINIAN on 24 July 1944. The island was announced secured on 1 August 1944. Commander FIFTH Fleet announced that the capture and occupation phase had been completed at SAIPAN and TINIAN on 10 August, and full responsibility for the development and defense of those islands passed from the Commanding General, Expeditionary Troops, Task Force 56, to the respective Island Commanders. On 15 August the capture and occupation phase at GUAM was announced completed, and the Island Commander assumed full command of that island. Commander FIFTH Fleet released the Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific, from the command of Expeditionary Troops on 14 August, and Task Force 56 was dissolved on that date. On 16 August the Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific returned with his staff by air to PEARL HARBOR.

3. A full account, based upon information presently available, of all aspects of the operation under the cognizance of this Headquarters, together with the recommendations of various participating general and special staff sections is contained in enclosures (A) through (G) transmitted herewith. However, the scope and complexity of the operation was such that the report of any one participating command is necessarily limited. Any complete and accurate delineation of the conduct of operations or considered recommendations on specific techniques, tactics, and equipment employed must await the receipt of all reports from all participating echelons - ground, naval, and air. The reports of those units comprising Expeditionary Troops will be forwarded with appropriate comments to higher headquarters via the operational chain of command when they are received.

4. The following comments and recommendations warrant particular attention.

(a) Planning.

(1) It is recommended that in planning for future operations similar in scope to FORAGER a more realistic approach be given the problem of Civil Affairs. There is a great need for adequate and experienced personnel and sufficient equipment to satisfy the fundamental, practical problems of clothing, shelter, food,

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sanitation and medical treatment. The responsibility for the administration of civil affairs should rest with a military officer, i.e. Army or Marine, whose experience and background naturally fit him for such a position. The sociological and political aspects of civil affairs should be given consideration only after the problem of survival has been met.

(2) It is recommended that no unit participating in one operation be committed, in planning, to a mission in any subsequent operation before it is completely apparent that the unit will be available.

(3) It is recommended that the policy of assigning task force designations to permanent military organizations employed in amphibious operations be abandoned. The practice of assigning numerical designations to temporary or provisional organizations such as expeditionary troops headquarters, garrison headquarters, etc., is, however, considered warranted.

(b) Operations.

(1) Training: It should be borne in mind that although full-scale dress rehearsals for troops to be employed in amphibious operations are eminently desirable, they may not always be possible. The factors of geography, shipping priorities, and time may preclude the possibility of their use for all future operations. With this in mind, great emphasis must be placed during the training period on operational training. Particular attention must be given to the following:

a. The employment of the infantry-artillery-engineer-tank team in the reduction of fortified positions.

b. Aggressive combat patrolling supplemented by distant reconnaissance patrolling.

c. The unhesitating exploitation of artillery, air, and naval gunfire support by infantry troops to maintain unrelenting pressure on the enemy.

d. Small unit training.

The tactics and doctrine taught to troops of all Services are largely standard. The differences in performance between particular

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units can be accounted for by inadequate emphasis in training on those features particularly applicable to a given theater.

(2) Liaison: There is always the need for emphasizing the obligation of all unit commanders to keep superior commanders informed at all times as to the progress of operations. Liaison officers may be employed to good advantage in this regard, and it is especially recommended that personal liaison be maintained whenever expeditionary troops headquarters is embarked and its assault corps or divisions are ashore.

(3) Service Functions: It is recommended that insofar as possible all major service functions, including shore party responsibility, rest with the senior troop command echelon landing on a given beachhead. The subordinate echelons would thereby be freed from a considerable burden and released to purely tactical functions.

(4) Experience: The echeloned conduct of operations in the MARIANAS made each phase successively less difficult. It is therefore recommended that whenever possible the same troops be employed in successive similar phases of an operation where the lessons of preceding phases and the experience gained therein is of great value.

(c) Intelligence.

It is recommended:

(1) That adequate provision of office space and equipment be made to enable ship-based G-2 Sections in future operations to function more efficiently aboard ship (taking into account the necessity for close cooperation between the G-2 and G-3 Sections).

(2) That present directives designed to prevent looting and unauthorized souvenir hunting be more effectively enforced, particularly for the naval personnel of transports, support vessels, garrison and supply ships, and other personnel not under the direct control of the Landing Force.

(3) That higher authority provide a special pool of Japanese language interpreters for the specific purpose of accompanying POW ships, relieving assault troops of the present requirement of providing personnel for this purpose.

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(4) That additional efforts be expended to improve the type and quality of photographic coverage prior to D-Day by provision of vertical photographs at 1:5,000 and close-in oblique photographs of landing beach areas on D minus 90, D minus 60, D minus 30, D minus 15, and D minus 3.

(5) That more adequate provision be made for the procurement and processing of photographs taken in the field on and after D-Day.

a. By making photographic aircraft directly available to Corps Headquarters on call, and

b. By providing fully-equipped mobile photographic laboratories capable of a daily output of 2400 prints, at a minimum.

(d) Logistics.

The following recommendations are submitted:

(1) Initial Supply:-

cept: a. Thirty days of all classes and types ex-

a' Class III - fuels and petroleum products.

b' Chemical warfare supplies.

b. Adopt class V ammunition quantities as set forth in paragraph 1.b.(5) of enclosure (E).

(2) Resupply:-

a. Large proportion of "C", "K", and "10-in-1" rations in block loaded ships.

b. Ammunition ships vertical loaded.

a' Palletize resupply ammunition to the maximum extent practicable.

c. Decrease small arms ammunition in proportion to initial supply and increase artillery ammunition based on the tactical situation.

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d. Provide optional loaded ships for Army divisions if participating in a combat mission.

(3) Emergency Supply:-

a. Increase quantities of the following in emergency supply bases:

- a' "C", "K", and "10-in-1" rations.
- b' Mortar and artillery ammunition.

b. Provide emergency reserve in close proximity to target area.

(e) Personnel.

(1) Casualty Reports: There is a need for a brief, simple, standardized form for casualty reports prepared in advance by the highest troop echelon involved and distributed in advance to all participating units.

(2) Replacements: Approximately 7,000 replacements were supplied during the FORAGER Operation from the HAWAIIAN Area. This indicates the need for immediately available replacements:

a. Either as initial over-strength in assault divisions, or embarked and present in the assault shipping, and

b. Additional replacements available in a replacement center in the forward area to provide personnel on very short notice. It is estimated that such a replacement center should have on hand 15 to 20 percent of the strength of the assault troops involved in any given operation. Steps are currently being taken by this and higher headquarters to effect the foregoing recommendation.

(f) Air.

Preliminary air strikes and air support during the operations on SAIPAN, GUAM, and TINIAN proved so effective that complete dominance of the air was gained prior to D-Day. As a result the assault troops were altogether relieved of the serious problem of antiaircraft defense. In order to improve air support in future operations it is recommended that:

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Troops, Task Force 56, FORAGER.

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(1) There be a definite assignment of CVEs for the exclusive support of the landing forces, not to be withdrawn for possible fleet actions.

(2) That land-based air be landed and employed for close support at the earliest possible time during the assault phase.

(3) That adequate numbers of land-based aircraft units in this theater be given close support training.

(4) That CVEs be allocated to Marine air groups for the support of assault landings by Marine divisions, and that a large proportion of the prospective land-based aircraft to be employed for close support be furnished by Marine Corps air groups.

(5) That there be established at the landing force headquarters in future operations a clearing station for the coordination of artillery, naval gunfire, and air missions, where a status board can be maintained to indicate the type fire, the target area, and the time limit for each mission.

(6) That OY aircraft be transported to the objective in a "flyaway" status aboard CVEs.

(7) That VMO squadrons be increased to include 4 SBD or SB2C type aircraft for rapid distant land-based reconnaissance missions.

(g) Naval Gunfire.

Naval gunfire support was a decisive factor in the conduct of operations, and it is recommended:

(1) That whenever possible similar extended, deliberate, observed fires be delivered against landing beaches and enemy positions prior to the landing.

(2) That shore bombardment training be made available in the forward area, as well as in the HAWAIIAN Area, to fast task units which may be expected to take part in bombardments of targets in future operations.

(3) That the joint assault signal company be

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augmented as indicated in the recommendations made by the Naval Gun-  
fire Officer in enclosure (G).

(h) Engineer.

Engineer functions in future operations of similar or greater scope than FORAGER will inevitably become vitally important. It is therefore recommended:

(1) That since the shore party function is basically one of supply and evacuation, and as such is largely within the scope of the G-4 Section, the shore party be considered as a service unit, organized well in advance and adequately manned, trained, and equipped to function under control of the highest headquarters landing.

(2) That organic engineers of divisions and engineer troops attached to corps and higher echelons be employed primarily for combat engineering missions and not diverted to purely shore party functions.

(3) That garrison engineer forces be of adequate strength to replace, as early as the situation dictates, engineer units of the assault divisions, and be prepared to assume communication zone engineer missions.

(4) That in future operations a greater proportion of engineer equipment accompany engineer units, and that the equipment left with the rear echelon be shipped forward at the earliest possible date.

(i) Signal Communications.

It is recommended:

(1) That a re-study of the basis for estimating signal replacement supplies be made.

(2) That FTP 211 be revised in accordance with recent developments in order that the Naval Service may benefit by the communications experience of Central Pacific operations.

(3) That the commanders of corps or large forces ashore be provided with a full Class V afloat allowance whenever conditions of security permit and the circumstances warrant.



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(j) Medical.

It is recommended:

(1) That the appropriate Air Transport Command provide medical attendants, nursing equipment and facilities for serving nourishment on transport planes used for evacuation of casualties.

(2) That LSTs be used for evacuation of casualties only after they have been completely unloaded, cleaned and equipped with surgical facilities, and then only for transporting slightly wounded short distances.

(3) That an increased number of hospital ships be provided for the Pacific area.

(4) That the number of hospital beds on nearby friendly islands be sufficient to allow a 30 day evacuation policy to operate.

(5) That in operations of corps dimensions there should arrive in each corps area by D plus 10, 2000 cots, mosquito nets and blankets and 100 ward tents or 200 storage tents for expansion of corps and division hospitals.

(6) That separate medical facilities be provided for the early care of civilian casualties and that these facilities be in addition to those now established in Marine combat organizations.

(k) Transport Quartermaster.

It is recommended:

(1) That wherever possible adequate shipping be assigned to carry the division headquarters and the division troops, which are comparable in size to, and carry as much equipment as, a combat team. The assignment of an AGC to each transport group would in part provide a solution to this problem.

(2) That the number of DUKWs mounting "A" frames be increased in order to facilitate the unloading of palletized supplies and the supplies left in cargo nets in both DUKWs and LVTs.

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Action is being taken by this Headquarters on the recommendations in regard to the organization of division embarkation teams (See TQM Report Enclosure (G)).

5. The operations for the capture of SAIPAN, GUAM, and TINIAN were in the truest sense of the word amphibious operations. They involved assault landings on strongly defended beaches and the subsequent conduct of opposed land actions over varied terrain. Success would have been impossible had any participating member of the highly integrated and coordinated joint force been lacking. The validity of our doctrine as established in F.T.P. 167 and in the basic field manuals was again clearly affirmed. The assigned mission was accomplished and its ends gained. Two important enemy bases have been captured and the considerable enemy thereon destroyed or captured. An American possession has been regained. As a result we hold invaluable bases and are already employing them to maintain control of sea communications throughout the Central Pacific, to support further amphibious operations westward, to isolate and control the enemy-held Central CAROLINES, to attack and destroy Japanese sea communication, and initiate very long-range air attacks on JAPAN. As a result of this operation we know our enemy and his weaknesses better, and we have derived invaluable experience for the prosecution of future operations.

6. Three factors were decisive in the successful execution of the operation:

(a) The unprecedented degree of coordination between all services throughout. This was based on all-around cooperation and understanding and cemented by mutual respect and confidence, which has developed through a series of operations and has welded one experienced team from many varying elements.

(b) The experience and training of the assault elements, which achieved for them the highest degree of combat efficiency.

(c) The courage and unexhaustible tenacity of the soldiers, marines, and sailors who did the job.

7. The command of such men was a high privilege.

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Troops, Task Force 56, FORAGER.

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H. M. SMITH.

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CG TENTH Army —  
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CG III AC —  
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Expeditionary Troops  
Task Force Fifty-Six  
In the Field

26 April 1944

Operation Plan

FORAGER

No. 3-44

Maps, Charts, Photos: See Annex BAKER (Intelligence).

TASK ORGANIZATION.

See Annex ABLE (Task Organization).

1. a. This Operation Plan No. 3-44 supersedes Operation Plan No. 2-44, dated 11 April 1944.
- b. See Annex BAKER (Intelligence) and G-2 summaries as issued.
- c. See Annex CHARLIE (Naval Gunfire Support) and Annex DOG (Air Support).

A naval force including transport divisions carrying reserve regiments of NORTHERN Troops and Landing Force will conduct a demonstration in the area NW of TANAPAG Harbor, SAIPAN, from one-half hour before sunrise on Dog-day to about How-hour-plus-one-hour on Dog-day.

2. a. Expeditionary Troops (TF 56), with Joint Expeditionary Force (TF 51), beginning on Dog-day, will seize, occupy and defend SAIPAN, GUAM and TINIAN Islands, in order to obtain their use and deny them to the enemy; then will prepare for further amphibious operations as directed.
- b. Phases: See Annex EASY (Operation Map).
3. a. NORTHERN Troops and Landing Force (TG 56.1).

At How-hour on Dog-day, land, seize, occupy and defend SAIPAN; then be prepared to seize TINIAN on order.
- b. SOUTHERN Troops and Landing Force (TG 56.2).

(1) After Dog-day be prepared to land on order on SAIPAN on designated beaches and seize objectives

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Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

as directed to support the attack of the NORTHERN Landing Force.

(2) At How-hour on William-day, land on GUAM, seize, occupy and defend the general line ADELUP Pt. - ALUTOM Mt. - Mt. TENJO - ALIFAN Mt. - FACPI Pt. (all inclusive), establish control of the OROTE Peninsula - APRA Harbor area, then conduct further operations to seize the remainder of GUAM, priority to the area NE of the line AGANA - PAGO Bay.

c. Expeditionary Troops Reserve.

(1) (a) 27th Infantry Division (TG 56.3), be prepared to land on order on designated beaches at SAIPAN in the CHARAN - KANOA area, in the TANAPAG Harbor area, on the west coast north of TANAPAG Harbor or in MAGICIENNE Bay, in support of the NORTHERN Landing Force.

(b) Be prepared to land on order on designated beaches at GUAM in support of the SOUTHERN Landing Force.

(2) 77th Infantry Division (TG 56.4) on Dog-day-plus-twenty, be alerted at OAHU ready for mounting in designated shipping on order, prepared to land in support of the NORTHERN Landing Force or SOUTHERN Landing Force as directed.

x. (1) After seizure of objectives, establish initial defenses against hostile land, sea and air attacks.

(2) Dog-day: Day of main landings on SAIPAN. To be announced.

William-day: Day of main landings on GUAM. To be announced.

Jig-day: Day of main landings on TINIAN. To be announced.

Mike-day: Day of main landings on other objectives. To be announced.

How-hour: Hour of main landings on Dog-day, William-day, Jig-day and Mike-day. To be announced.

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Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

King-hour: Hour of subsequent local attacks ashore within zones of action of respective Landing Forces. To be announced.

Nan-hour: Hour of any subsidiary landings on SAIPAN, TINIAN and GUAM. To be announced.

- (3) See Annex EASY (Operation Map).
  - (4) See Annex FOX (Designation of Beaches).
  - (5) See Annex GEORGE (Engineer).
  - (6) See Annex JIG (Password and Countersign).
  - (7) This plan effective on receipt.
4. a. See Expeditionary Troops Administrative Order No. 3-44.
- b. See Annex ABLE to Expeditionary Troops Administrative Order No. 3-44 (Supply).
- c. See Annex BAKER to Expeditionary Troops Administrative Order No. 3-44 (Shore Party).
- d. See Annex CHARLIE to Expeditionary Troops Administrative Order No. 3-44 (Medical).
- e. See Annex DOG to Expeditionary Troops Administrative Order No. 3-44 (Civil Affairs).
5. a. See Annex HOW (Signal Communication).
- b. See Annex ITEM (Command Relations).
- c. Command Posts: See Annex HOW (Signal Communication).
- d. Use Zone Zero time. At all times while between longitude one eight zero and one five seven thirty East longitude use Zone minus Eleven time as local time and use East longitude dates. While west of one five seven thirty East longitude use minus Ten Time and East longitude dates. How-hour and other lettered hours will be expressed in Zone minus Ten time East longitude date. When time is used in the text of dispatches, include the appropriate Zone description letters,

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Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

001463

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL HOLLAND M. SMITH.

G. B. ERSKINE,  
BrigGen., U.S. Marine Corps,  
Chief of Staff.

ANNEXES:

ABLE:	Task Organization.
BAKER:	Intelligence.
CHARLIE:	Naval Gunfire Support.
DOG:	Air Support.
EASY:	Operation Map.
FOX:	Designation of Beaches.
GEORGE:	Engineer.
HOW:	Signal Communications.
ITEM:	Landing Force Command Relations.
JIG:	Password and Countersign.
KING:	Distribution.

DISTRIBUTION:

See Annex KING (Distribution).

OFFICIAL:

*J. C. McQueen*  
J. C. McQUEEN,  
Colonel, USMC,  
Asst. CofS, G-3.  
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Expeditionary Troops  
Task Force Fifty-Six  
In the Field

26 April 1944

Annex ABLE to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER

TASK ORGANIZATION

Expeditionary Troops (TF 56) - LtGen H. M. Smith USMC

Det H & S Bn VPhibCorps  
Det Sig Bn VPhibCorps  
Det MarSupServ VPhibCorps

- a. NORTHERN Troops and Landing Force (TG 56.1) -  
LtGen H. M. Smith USMC  
(BrigGen Erskine USMC Deputy Commander)

Corps Troops

H & S Bn VPhibCorps (less Dets)  
Sig Bn VPhibCorps (less Dets)  
Corps Arty  
XXIV Army Corps Arty  
Phib Recon Bn VPhibCorps (less Co A)  
Hq Prov Engr Group, VPhibCorps  
MT Co VPhibCorps (less Dets)  
7th Field Depot (less Dets)  
1st Prov Field Hosp VPhibCorps  
31st Field Hosp (Army)  
3d Prov Portable Surg Hosp (Army)  
4th Prov Portable Surg Hosp (Army)  
2dMarDiv (Reinf) (less 1stBn, 2d Marines)  
4thMarDiv (Reinf)  
1stBn 2d Marines, Co A Phib Recon Bn  
VPhibCorps atchd  
SAIPAN Garrison Force (TG 10.13)  
TINIAN Garrison Force (TG 10.12)

- b. SOUTHERN Troops and Landing Force (TG 56.2) -  
MajGen Geiger USMC

Corps Troops

H & S Bn IIIPhibCorps (less Dets)  
Sig Bn IIIPhibCorps (less Dets)  
MT Bn IIIPhibCorps (less Dets)  
Med Bn IIIPhibCorps (Reinf)  
Corps Arty  
Corps Arty IIIPhibCorps  
5th Field Depot  
53d N C B  
3dMarDiv (Reinf)  
1st ProvMarBrig (Reinf)  
GUAM Garrison Force (TG 10.11)



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Annex ABLE to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

c. Expeditionary Troops Reserve

27thInfDiv (Reinf) (TG 56.3)  
77thInfDiv (Reinf) (TG 56.4)

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL HOLLAND M. SMITH.

G. B. ERSKINE,  
BrigGen., U.S. Marine Corps,  
Chief of Staff.

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OFFICIAL:

*J. C. McQueen*  
J. C. McQUEEN,  
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Expeditionary Troops,  
Task Force Fifty-Six  
In the Field.

26 April, 1944.

Annex BAKER to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

INTELLIGENCE

Maps: Special Terrain Maps, scales 1:20,000 and 1:62,500 of each of the following islands: GUAM, TINIAN and SAIPAN. (64th Engr. Top. Bn., 1944)

Charts: Charts, scale 1 inch = 1 nautical mile, of each of the following islands: GUAM, TINIAN and SAIPAN. (64th Engr. Top. Bn., 1944)

H.O. 4202	H.O. 12062
H.O. 5359	H.O. 12063
H.O. 5360	H.O. 12064

Photographs: Vertical overlapping strips suitable for stereo study, and high and low level obliques of GUAM, TINIAN and SAIPAN will be furnished when available.

Relief Maps: Relief maps of GUAM, TINIAN and SAIPAN will be furnished when available.

1. SUMMARY OF THE ENEMY SITUATION.

- a. See VPhibCorps Weekly Situation Summaries.
- b. See VPhibCorps Situation Maps.
- c. See VPhibCorps Study of the Theatre of Operations (Southern MARIANAS).

2. ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF ENEMY INFORMATION.

a. Will the Japanese assume a passive defense of the southern MARIANAS? If so, what will be the hostile strength and composition of the ground and air forces, and the location and nature of the defensive installations on GUAM, TINIAN and SAIPAN?

b. Will the Japanese assume an active defense of each island in the southern MARIANAS by defending one or more of the favorable landing areas lightly and maintaining a strong mobile reserve, centrally located, that can be moved to the decisive area? If so, what will be the strength and location of the reserve and what will be

FOUO

Annex BAKER to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

the strength and composition of the ground and air defense forces and the nature and location of the defensive installations on each island?

c. Determine the location, type, and nature of the enemy's main defensive positions to include supporting and reserve positions on GUAM, TINIAN and SAIPAN.

d. Will the Japanese attempt to prevent our landing by employing beach defenses and underwater obstacles, including mines? If so, what type, and where will he employ such obstacles?

e. Will the Japanese reinforce existing ground and air garrisons in the southern MARIANAS? If so, when; what will be the strength and composition of the reinforcements for each objective?

f. Will the Japanese improve their present defensive installations on GUAM, TINIAN and SAIPAN? If so, when; where; what will be the nature of the improvements?

g. Will the Japanese withdraw any portion of the present garrisons on GUAM, TINIAN and SAIPAN? If so, when; what will be the strength and composition of the forces withdrawn.

h. What will be the nature and strength of the aircraft support, including the composition of aircraft units participating, that will be provided by the Japanese to execute the capabilities listed in EE of EI (a) to (g) above? From what airfields or bases will this aircraft support be furnished?

i. Where can landings be made by assault forces with landing boats or LVT's on GUAM, TINIAN and SAIPAN?

3. RECONNAISSANCE AND OBSERVATION MISSIONS.

a. All units, this Command, comply with VPhibCorps General Order Number 50-44, Intelligence Doctrine (SOP), dated 5 April, 1944.

b. Photographic reconnaissance, including large scale verticals, low level and high obliques of all objectives, have been requested on D-60, D-30, D-15 and D-3. Photographs taken on D-3 will be dropped to higher echelons aboard command ships not later than D-2.

4. MEASURES FOR HANDLING PRISONERS AND CAPTURED DOCUMENTS.

a. Prisoners, deserters and other persons.

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Annex BAKER to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

(1) Sorting and examining stations; as provided by Landing Force Commanders.

(2) Prisoners will be examined under the direction of Landing Force G-2's.

(3) All prisoners will be evacuated to prison ships which will be designated by Attack Force Commanders prior to D-Day.

b. Documents and captured materiel.

(1) All units this Command comply with VPhibCorps General Order Number 45-44, SOP, dated 31 March, 1944.

(2) The provisions of Section IV, FM 30-15, and Pacific Fleet CONFIDENTIAL Letter 35CL-43, will be strictly complied with.

(3) Intelligence teams from the Joint Intelligence Center will be attached to each assault division and to the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade. The document and materiel groups of these teams will accept custody of, and assist in, the evaluation of documents and materiel. The field study groups will make detailed studies of enemy installations and ground defensive organization.

(4) Documents that are considered of immediate value to the Expeditionary Troops Commander will be forwarded to the G-2, Expeditionary Troops through channels by the most expeditious means. These documents will later be turned over to JICPOA by G-2, Expeditionary Troops.

(5) Documents that are considered of immediate value to CinCPOA will be forwarded to the G-2, Expeditionary Troops. The G-2, Expeditionary Troops will arrange transportation for such documents by FAIRTRANS to JICPOA, PEARL HARBOR. It is anticipated that a special plane will be provided for that purpose.

(6) Any captured charts or documents that might be of immediate value to naval units will be forwarded to the Joint Expeditionary Force Commander through the respective Naval Attack Force Commanders.

5. MAPS AND PHOTOGRAPHS. Will be furnished when available by Commanding General, Expeditionary Troops.

6. COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE.

a. Operation orders, overlays, SOP's, SOI's and other compromising material WILL NOT be taken forward of Regimental CP's.

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Annex BAKER to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

Personnel of this Command are prohibited from having diaries in their possession.

b. Personnel of this Command are again warned that in case of capture, only the NAME, RANK and SERIAL NUMBER will be given.

c. All commanders will see that camouflage is used to the best advantage and that camouflage discipline is strictly maintained.

7. REPORTS AND DISTRIBUTION.

a. Daily periodic reports as of 1800 to be forwarded by Landing Force Commanders by most expeditious means.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL HOLLAND M. SMITH:

G. B. ERSKINE,  
BrigGen., U. S. Marine Corps,  
Chief of Staff.

DISTRIBUTION:

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O F F I C I A L

*Julien B Marshall*  
ST JULIEN R. MARSHALL,  
Colonel, U.S.M.C.,  
ACofS, G-2.

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Expeditionary Troops  
Task Force Fifty-Six  
In the Field

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26 April 1944

Annex CHARLIE to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

NAVAL GUNFIRE SUPPORT

The Naval Gunfire Support Plan contained herein is based upon Annex D to Commander Task Force 51 Operation Plan A10-44, "Instruction for Bombardment by Ship's Gunfire, FORAGER Operation".

1. The following ships will participate in shore bombardment during FORAGER:

a. FAST Battleships (TF58)

BB55 NORTH CAROLINA  
BB58 INDIANA  
BB60 ALABAMA  
BB62 NEW JERSEY

BB57 SOUTH DAKOTA  
BB59 MASSACHUSETTS  
BB61 IOWA

Destroyers - an undetermined number.

b. Bombardment Group 1. (TF52)

Old Battleships

BB43 TENNESSEE  
BB45 COLORADO

BB44 CALIFORNIA  
BB46 MARYLAND

Heavy Cruisers

CA28 LOUISVILLE

CA35 INDIANAPOLIS

Light Cruisers

CL55 CLEVELAND  
CL62 BIRMINGHAM

CL57 MONTPELIER

✓ Destroyers

DD658 COLOHAN  
DD687 UHLMANN  
DD541 YARNALL  
DD683 STOCKHAM  
DD689 WADLEIGH  
DD691 MERTZ  
DD678 MC GOWAN  
24 LCI(G)

DD682 HALSEY POWELL  
DD796 BENHAM  
DD540 TWINING  
DD688 REMEX  
DD690 NORMAN SCOTT  
DD677 MC DERMUT

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Annex CHARLIE to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

c. Bombardment Group 2 (TF53)

Old Battleships

BB38 PENNSYLVANIA  
BB42 IDAHO

BB40 NEW MEXICO

✓ Heavy Cruisers

CA32 NEW ORLEANS  
CA38 SAN FRANCISCO

CA36 MINNEAPOLIS  
CA45 WICHITA

✓ Light Cruisers

CL48 HONOLULU

CL49 ST. LOUIS

✓ Destroyers

DD479 STEVENS  
DD574 JOHN RODGERS  
DD576 MURRAY  
DD501 SCHROEDER

DD573 HARRISON  
DD575 MC KEE  
DD500 RINGGOLD  
DD502 SIGSBEE

Plus 3 others 24 LCI(G).

2. The landing and seizure of assigned objectives by units of the Expeditionary Troops will be supported by Naval Gunfire provided by Joint Expeditionary Force.

3. Naval Gunfire Support will be provided as follows:

a. Against SAIPAN

Dog minus 2 days - By fast battleships and destroyers of TF58 with the mission to destroy aircraft, render airfields temporarily useless, destroy coast defense and anti-aircraft batteries, burn all unburned canefields laying south of MUTCHO POINT - CHATCHA VILLAGE, destroy enemy defenses and personnel and cover the minesweeping of the shelf to the westward of SAIPAN beginning early in the morning.

Dog minus 1 day - By Bombardment Group One - Counter-battery fire, area bombardment and interdiction fire commencing at daybreak and continuing throughout the day with the mission to destroy as many coast defense guns, anti-aircraft batteries, mobile artillery weapon, enemy defenses and personnel as possible. Particular attention to destroy gun positions in MAGICIENNE BAY; beach defenses and installations on landing beaches themselves. Close supporting fire will be provided to cover the beach reconnaissance by the Underwater Demolition Team.

Annex CHARLIE to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

Dog-day - By Bombardment Group One - Counter-battery fire, commencing near dawn, and intense destructive fire on beach defenses and installations by all ships until LVT(A)s are 300 yards from the beach; then to the flanks and inland to the O-1 line until lifted by order. Main batteries lift fire when the LVT(A)s are 1200 yards from the beaches and secondary batteries when the LVT(A)s are 300 yards from the beaches. Supporting fire in the TANAPAG Harbor area to cover the demonstration landing.

b. Against TINIAN

Dog minus 2 days - By fast battleships and destroyers of TF58 with the mission to destroy aircraft, render airfields temporarily useless, and to destroy coast defense anti-aircraft and mobile artillery guns.

Dog minus 1 day and Dog-day - By Bombardment Group 2 - Counter-battery fire and target of opportunity fire commencing at daybreak and continuing throughout the day with the mission to destroy or neutralize enemy guns and defenses which can interfere with our landing on SAIPAN. Only 20% of the total ammunition allowance of this group will be expended during the two days.

c. Against GUAM

William minus 2 days and William minus 1 day - By Bombardment Group 2 - Counter-battery fire, area bombardment and interdiction fire commencing at daybreak and continuing throughout the day with the mission to destroy coast defense, anti-aircraft and mobile artillery guns, enemy defenses and personnel as possible. Close supporting fires will be provided to cover the beach reconnaissance by the Underwater Demolition Teams.

William-day - By Bombardment Group 2 - Counter-battery fire commencing near dawn and intense destructive fire on beach defenses and installations by all ships until the LVT(A)s are 300 yards from the beach, then to the flanks and inland to the O-1 line until lifted by order. Main batteries lift fire when LVT(A)s are 1200 yards from the beach and secondary batteries when LVT(A)s are 300 yards from the beach.

x. (1) Call fires on targets of opportunity controlled by Shore Fire Control Party after they have landed.

(2) Gunfire support plan will be coordinated with air and artillery plans to prevent mutual interference, danger to planes and duplication of effort.



Annex CHARLIE to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

(3) Upon completion of the operation, expedite reports by Naval Gunfire Spotters and Naval Gunfire Liaison Officers to the Commanding General, Expeditionary Troops via Landing Force Commanders.

- ✓ 4. a. Total ammunition allocated for shore bombardment by Bombardment Groups 1 and 2:

<u>Caliber</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Allowance Per Gun</u>	<u>At Objective</u>	<u>Reserve per gun at Eniwetok</u>
16"	HC	80	0	160
16"	AP	5	0	40
14"	HC	80	0	100
14"	AP	5	0	25
8"	✓ HC	90-100	100	100
8"	✓ AP	10	0	50
6"	✓ HC	180	180	180
6"	✓ AP	10	0	90
5"/51	HC	200	0	100
				CL 250
5"/38	AAC	OBB 350 - CL 250	0	OBB 350
		DD150	160	150
5"/38	C	25	0	50
5"/38	✓ WP	10	0	10
5"/25		OBB 350 - CA 125	0	OBB 175
				CA 125
5"/51	C	10	0	0

- ✓ b. Ammunition allowance for fast battleships and destroyers:  
16" - 40 rounds per gun HC and 5"/38-100 rounds per gun.


- ✓ c. Sufficient ammunition will be reserved aboard all ships for call fire.

5. ✓ a. See Annex DOG to CentComTwo (Signal Communications).

- b. See Annex DOG to CentComTwo (Shore Fire Control Party Frequencies).

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL HOLLAND M. SMITH.


G. B. ERSKINE,  
BrigGen., U.S. Marine Corps,  
Chief of Staff.

  
Annex CHARLIE to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

DISTRIBUTION:

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OFFICIAL:

  
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Expeditionary Troops  
Task Force Fifty-Six  
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14 May 1944

Annex DOG to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

### AIR SUPPORT

The Air Support Plan contained herein is based upon Annex (F) to Commander Task Force 51 Operation Plan A10-44, AIR SUPPORT PLAN - FORAGER OPERATION.

1. Preliminary strikes by land and carrier-based aircraft will be directed by Commander FIFTH FLEET.
2. Carrier-based aircraft of Task Force 58, Task Force 52 and Task Force 53 will provide air support for the assault, occupation and consolidation of FORAGER objectives.
3. Air support will be provided as follows:
  - a. Against SAIPAN.

(1) Dog-minus-two days.

- (a) Fighter sweeps will be made against airfields on SAIPAN.
- (b) When ordered, 12VF, 12VSB and 9VTB will be maintained on station at the objective for the protection of minesweepers and for called strikes upon enemy installations.
- (c) One aircraft for the Air Coordinator will be maintained on station during air operations.
- (d) Three aircraft equipped for smoke laying will be maintained on station during air operations.
- (e) Combat air patrol and anti-submarine patrol will be maintained at the objectives.

(2) Dog-minus-one day.

- (a) Fighter sweeps will be made against airfields on SAIPAN.
- (b) During daylight hours combat air patrol and anti-submarine patrol will be maintained on station in the objective areas.

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Annex DOG to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

(c) From 0600 to 1800 one aircraft for the air coordinator will be maintained on station.

(d) From 0600 to 1800, 12VF, 12VSB and 9VTB aircraft will be maintained on station for called strikes and covering missions. Support flights will relieve on station at intervals of one and one half hours.

(e) Commencing at 0700 and again at 1300, six aircraft equipped for smoke laying will be alerted aboard carriers prepared to take off on order to cover operations of reconnaissance and demolition units.

(f) Commencing at 0900 one photographic plane will be over objective area to accomplish photographic missions.

(3) Dog-day.

(a) During daylight hours, combat air patrol and anti-submarine patrol will be maintained on station in the objective area.

(b) Commencing when first strike arrives on station and continuing until 1800, one aircraft for the air coordinator will be maintained on station.

(c) Commencing at How-minus-sixty minutes and continuing during daylight hours throughout the remainder of the operation, two VTB aircraft for air observers will be maintained on station.

(d) Commencing when artillery has been established on shore and on order from Commander Support Aircraft, three VTB aircraft for artillery spotters will be maintained on station over the objective area. As soon as a suitable landing area has been established on shore, and upon request of the Landing Force Commander, the Attack Force Commander will order OY-1 Artillery spotting planes launched from carriers on which they are embarked. Artillery spotting missions will then be performed by these aircraft based on shore.

Annex DOG to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

(e) From How-plus-sixty minutes until 1600, one VTB aircraft equipped to take photographs will be maintained on station.

(f) Fighter sweeps will be made on enemy airfields on SAIPAN.

(g) From How-minus-sixty minutes to How-plus-sixty minutes, six aircraft equipped for smoke laying will be maintained on station prepared to lay smoke on instructions from Commander Support Aircraft.

(h) From How-minus-ninety minutes to How-minus-sixty minutes, 6OVF, 51VSB and 54VTB will make coordinated strikes on SAIPAN and TINIAN in order to support the landings on the beaches of CHARAN - KANOA Area.

(i) From 1605 until 1730 a support group consisting of 16VF, 12VSB and 9VTB aircraft will be maintained on station in the objective area to provide called strikes and direct support missions.

(4) Dog-plus-one day, and thereafter until otherwise instructed.

(a) Commencing at DAWN and continuing through daylight hours, 2 CVEs will be prepared to launch on one hour's notice, 7VTB each for delivery of supplies by air to 1st Battalion 2d Marines. The number of days this service will be required will be determined by the ground situation. The maximum number of days may be counted as five.

(b) Commencing at 0900 and continuing until 1600, one photographic plane will be maintained on station in the objective area.

(c) Combat air patrol and anti-submarine patrol will be maintained in the objective area during daylight.

(d) Commencing when the first support group arrives on station and continuing until 1800, an air coordinator will be on station to assist Commander Support Aircraft.

Annex DOG to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

(e) During daylight and on order of Commander Support Aircraft, three aircraft for artillery spotters will be maintained on station in the objective area unless otherwise directed.

(f) From 0600 until 1800 a support group consisting of 16VF, 12VSB and 9VTB will be maintained on station in the objective area.

b. Against GUAM.

(1) Dog-day and continuing until William-minus-one day, preliminary air bombardment will be directed against known enemy installations.

(2) William-minus-one day.

(a) Fighter sweeps will be made on enemy airfields.

(b) Combat air patrol and anti-submarine patrol will be maintained in the objective area during daylight.

(c) From 0600 to 1800 an Air Coordinator will be on station to assist Commander Support Aircraft.

(d) From 0600 to 1800 a covering and striking group consisting of 12VF, 12VSB and 9VTB will be maintained on station for such missions as may be directed by Commander Support Aircraft. Flights will be relieved on station at intervals of one and one half hours.

(e) Commencing at 0800 and again at 1500, six smoke planes will be maintained aboard carriers prepared to take off on order of Commander Support Aircraft.

(f) One photographic plane will be on station at 0900 to take vertical photographs from SAUPON POINT to FACPI POINT.

(3) William-day.

(a) Combat air patrol and anti-submarine patrol will be maintained in the objective area during daylight.

Annex DOG to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

(b) Commencing when the first strike arrives on station and continuing until 1800, an air coordinator will be on station to assist Commander Support Aircraft.

(c) Commencing at How-minus-sixty minutes and continuing during daylight, two aircraft for air observers will be maintained on station in the objective area.

(d) Commencing when artillery has been established on shore and on order from Commander Support Aircraft, three aircraft for artillery spotters will be maintained on station in the objective area. As soon as suitable landing fields have been established ashore, spotting will be done from OY-1 artillery spotting planes.

(e) Commencing at How-plus-sixty minutes on William-day and continuing until 1600, one photographic plane will be maintained on station in the objective area.

(f) Fighter sweeps will be made on enemy airfields.

(g) From How-minus-ninety minutes to How-minus-sixty minutes, a striking group comprised of 46VF and 96VSB or VTB will make a coordinated attack in support of the landing on the ASAN and AGAT beaches.

(h) From 0615 to 1730, a support group consisting of 16VF, 12VSB and 9VTB will be maintained on station in the objective area to provide called strikes and close support missions. Flights will be relieved at intervals of one and one half hours.

(4) William-plus-one day and thereafter until otherwise instructed.

(a) Commencing at 0900 and continuing until 1600 one photographic plane will be maintained on station in the objective area.

(b) Combat air patrol and anti-submarine patrol will be maintained in the objective area during daylight.

Annex DOG to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

(c) Commencing when the first support group arrives on station and continuing until 1800, an air coordinator will be on station to assist Commander Support Aircraft.

(d) During daylight two aircraft for air observers will be maintained on station in the objective area.

(e) During daylight and on order of Commander Support Aircraft three aircraft for artillery spotters will be maintained on station in the objective area unless otherwise directed.

(f) From 0600 to 1800 an air support group consisting of 16VF, 12VSB and 9VTB will be maintained on station in the objective area to perform called strikes and close support missions. Flight groups are to be relieved on station at intervals of one and one half hours.

c. Against TINIAN.

(1) Dog-minus-two days and thereafter until otherwise instructed.

(a) Fighter sweeps will be made on airfields in order to destroy enemy aircraft.

(b) Enemy installations on TINIAN will be included in target assignments of air groups providing support for the assault on SAIPAN.

x. (1) Propaganda leaflets will be dropped on SAIPAN, TINIAN and GUAM prior to and after Dog-day.

(2) Air attacks will be coordinated with naval gunfire and artillery.

(3) VOS aircraft will be provided for spotting naval gunfire.

(4) Naval gunfire should be prepared to conduct fire on above objectives from How-minus-ninety minutes to How-minus-sixty minutes in the event the weather prevents the execution of this mission by naval aircraft.



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Annex DOG to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

4. Administrative and supply details: Normal.
5. Communications in accordance with CentComTwo.

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-----

FV

GN

X X X

NORTHERN  
LANDING FORCE

HN

**Saipan I**  
(1554)

## Tenian I

564

## Sunharon Roads

**Lalo Pt**

**Aguijan I**  
(584)

PHASE III  
(On Order)

# EXPEDITIONARY TROOPS

XX RESERVE XX

27



77 (Alerted Oahu)

FO

# GO

HO

D-day prepared to land in support Northern Landing Force.  
W-day prepared to land in support Southern Landing Force.

SOUTHERN LANDING FORCE  
PHASE I

D-day prepared to land in support  
Northern Landing Force.  
W-day land GUAM.

XXX

FP

GP

## PHASE II

## GUAM

**FQ**

GQ

# ANNEX EASY to Operation Plan No.3-44

## OPERATION MAP

**Expeditionary Troops**  
**26 April 1944**

BY COMMAND of LIEUT. GEN. H. M. SMITH, USMC

HP

**G. B. ERSKINE,  
BRIG. GEN., USMC,  
CHIEF OF STAFF.**

ISLANDS OF O  
GUAM, ROTA, AGUIJAN,  
TENIAN AND SAIPAN

(APPROX.)

$$R.F. = \frac{1}{500000}$$

Year	Yards
1960	10,000
1961	20,000
1962	30,000
1963	40,000
1964	50,000
1965	40,000
1966	30,000
1967	20,000
1968	10,000
1969	0

**APPROXIMATE SCALE**

PREPARED BY ENGINEER SECTION  
V AMPHIBIOUS CORPS from  
H.O. Chart No. 5360  
28 March 1944

**OFFICIAL:**

J. C. McQUEEN,  
COL., USMC,  
G-3.

**CAUTION:** To be used only for planning purposes.

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Task Force Fifty-Six  
In the Field

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26 April 1944

Annex FOX to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

DESIGNATION OF BEACHES

1. Landing areas for FORAGER will be designated by Landing Force Commanders as follows:

a. Landing areas assigned to RCTs, or possibly to be assigned, will be designated by colors, with beaches assigned to BLTs, or possibly to be assigned, designated by numbers in addition to color. All landing areas and beaches will be assigned colors and numbers counter-clockwise from the west around each island objective as viewed from the sea.

b. Colors to be employed:

Red

Green

Blue

Yellow

White

Purple

Orange

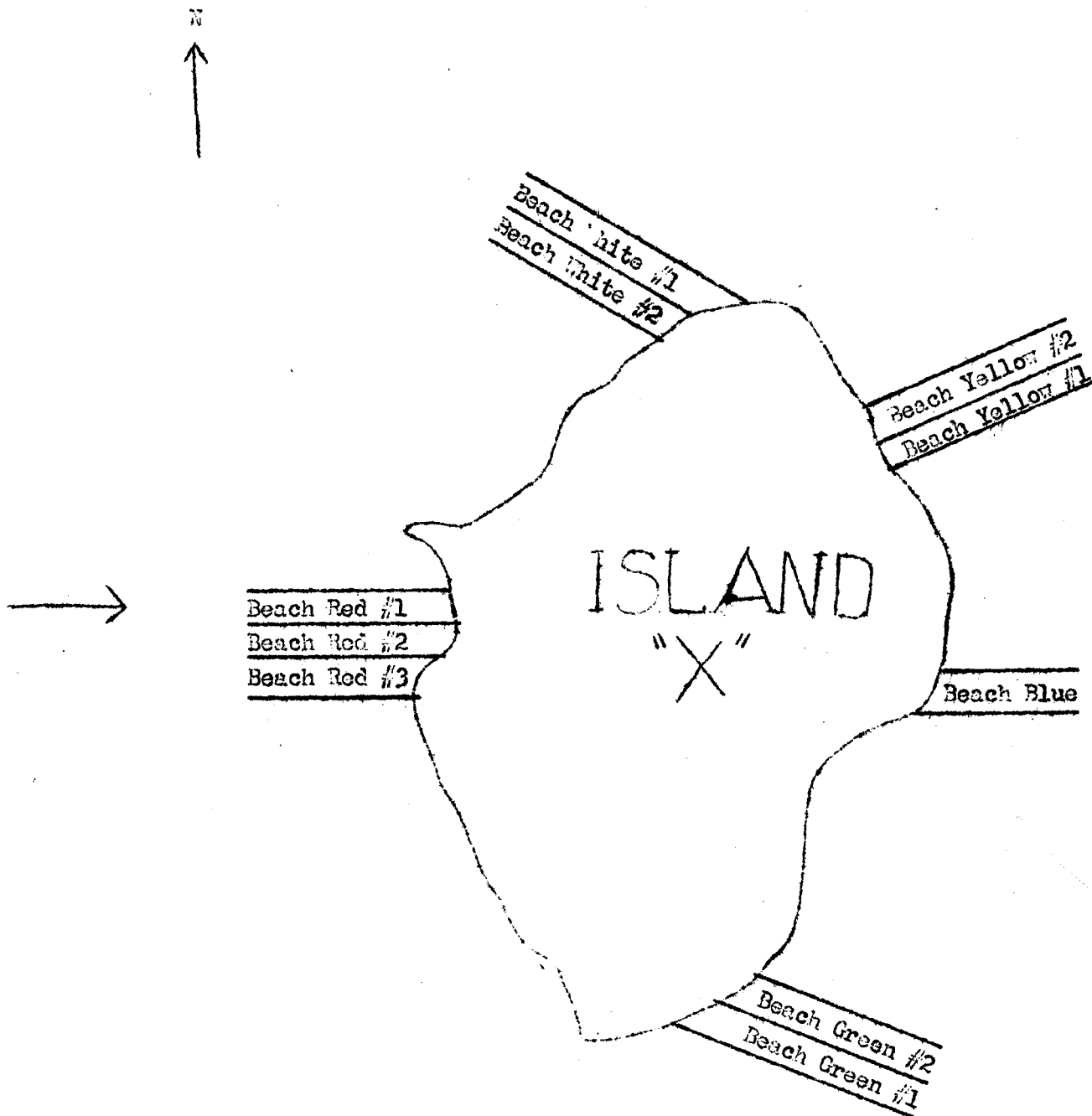
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Annex FOX to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

c. Example (not to scale):



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Annex FOX to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

2. Landing Force Commanders are responsible for coordination with respective Naval Attack Force Commanders to the end that all concerned understand and employ the selected beach designations.

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Task Force Fifty-Six  
In the Field

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26 April 1944

Annex "GEORGE" to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

ENGINEER

1. ENGINEER INTELLIGENCE - See Appendix 1.
2. EMPLOYMENT OF ENGINEER TROOPS -
  - (a) Organic combat engineer units of the Landing Forces will be employed on combat missions only.
  - (b) Employment of organic engineer troops other than combat: See Annex BAKER to Expeditionary Troops Administrative Order No. 3-44. When relieved from shore party missions these troops will: (a) Expand in scope the beach mine field and obstacle removal work initiated by combat engineers; (b) Establish and operate water supply points, and perform other combat engineer missions as assigned.
3. SUPPLY -
  - (a) Initially from beach dumps.
  - (b) Utilize captured material and local resources as available.


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Task Force Fifty-Six  
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Appendix 1 to Annex "GEORGE" to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER

ENGINEER INTELLIGENCE

1. GUAM - For information on communication facilities, water supply, industrial development, engineer supplies, air field sites and existing field see ONI Report No. 99, February 1944 and map appendix thereto.

2. SAIPAN-TINIAN - For information on communication facilities, water supply, industrial development, air field sites and existing field see JICPOA Bulletin No. 34-444, 10 March 1944 and Special Map SAIPAN-TINIAN Area, scale 1:40,000, March 1944.

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Expeditionary Troops  
Task Force Fifty-Six  
In the Field

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26 April 1944

Annex HOW to Operation Plan No. 3-44 FORAGER.

SIGNAL COMMUNICATION PLAN

1. (a) Task Organization - See Annex A to OpPlan 3-44.
- (b) Command Relations - See Annex I to OpPlan 3-44.
- (c) Command Posts afloat:

Expeditionary Troops	- USS ROCKY MOUNT
NORTHERN Troops and Landing Force	- USS CAMBRIA
SOUTHERN Troops and Landing Force	- USS APPALACHIAN

Expeditionary Troops Reserve:

27th InfDiv	- USS FREEMONT
77th InfDiv	- OAHU

2. Installations will be prepared to commence operations at H-4 hours Dog-day.

(a) RADIO

- (1) Expeditionary Troops will operate radio nets as indicated in Appendix 1 to this annex.
- (2) Landing Forces will utilize applicable frequencies of Task Forces as follows:

Task Force 51	- NORTHERN Troops and Landing Force
Task Force 52	- NORTHERN Troops and Landing Force
Task Force 53	- SOUTHERN Troops and Landing Force
Task Force 54	- SOUTHERN Troops and Landing Force
Task Force (as ordered)	- Expeditionary Troops Reserve.

(b) MESSAGE CENTER

- (1) Expeditionary Troops Message Center will operate jointly with the flagship communication office.
- (2) Messenger (ship, boat, airplane, runner, vehicle) service as required and authorized.

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Annex HOW to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

3. (a) Landing Force Commanders will be prepared to operate in Expeditionary Troops Command Net from command vessels offshore. (See Appendix 1, this Annex).
- (b) (1) Wire circuits will be installed as rapidly as the situation permits.
- (2) Wire leading into enemy held territory will be cut, unless ordered otherwise.
- (c) Island base communication units be prepared to land and commence installations on Dog-day, or when ordered. Provide external communications for Landing Forces.
4. See Expeditionary Troops Administrative Order No. 3-44.
5. Communications in accordance with CentCom TWO.

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APPENDICES:

1. Expeditionary Troops Radio Nets.
2. Additional distribution.

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Appendix 1 to Annex HOW to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

Expeditionary Troops Radio Nets

	Expeditionary Troops Command Net	Expeditionary Troops Command Net	Landing Force Command	Task Force Commanders
Emission	CW	VOICE	VOICE	CW
Frequency	5605 KCS	1918 KCS	29.2 MCS	4420 KCS
CG, Expeditionary Troops	X	X	X	A
CG, NORTHERN Troops and Landing Force	X	X	X	
CG, SOUTHERN Troops and Landing Force	W	W	W1	
Expeditionary Troops Reserve	X		X	
ALL TASK FORCE COMMANDERS				X

Notes: A. Operates in this circuit when ashore and in command.  
Other units (Corps or Divisions) operate in this circuit  
when senior in command ashore.

W. Commences to operate in this net at H - 4 on W Day.

W1. Operates from H - 4 on W Day if CGExpTrps is in vicinity  
of STEVEDORE

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Appendix 2 to Annex HOW to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF CENTRAL PACIFIC AREA

COMMUNICATION PLAN AND DOCTRINE

(SHORT TITLE - "CENTCOM TWO")

	<u>NOR</u> <u>Troops</u> <u>LanFor</u>	<u>SOU</u> <u>Troops</u> <u>LanFor</u>	<u>Expd</u> <u>Troops</u> <u>Reserve</u>	<u>Expd</u> <u>Troops</u> <u>Signal</u> <u>Detmt.</u>
CENTCOM TWO..... (COMPLETE)	200	200	200	15
<u>ANNEXES</u>				
A Radio Frequency Plan.....	0	0	0	0
B Call List.....	100	100	100	15
C Aircraft Communications, Fighter Direction and Air Support of Amphibious Operations.....	0	0	0	0
D Shore Fire Control.....	0	0	0	0
E Base Communication Plan.....	0	0	0	0
F Cryptographic and temporary changes to official publications; and cor- rections to this plan.....	100	100	100	15
G Amphibious and Landing Force Communications.....	100	100	100	15

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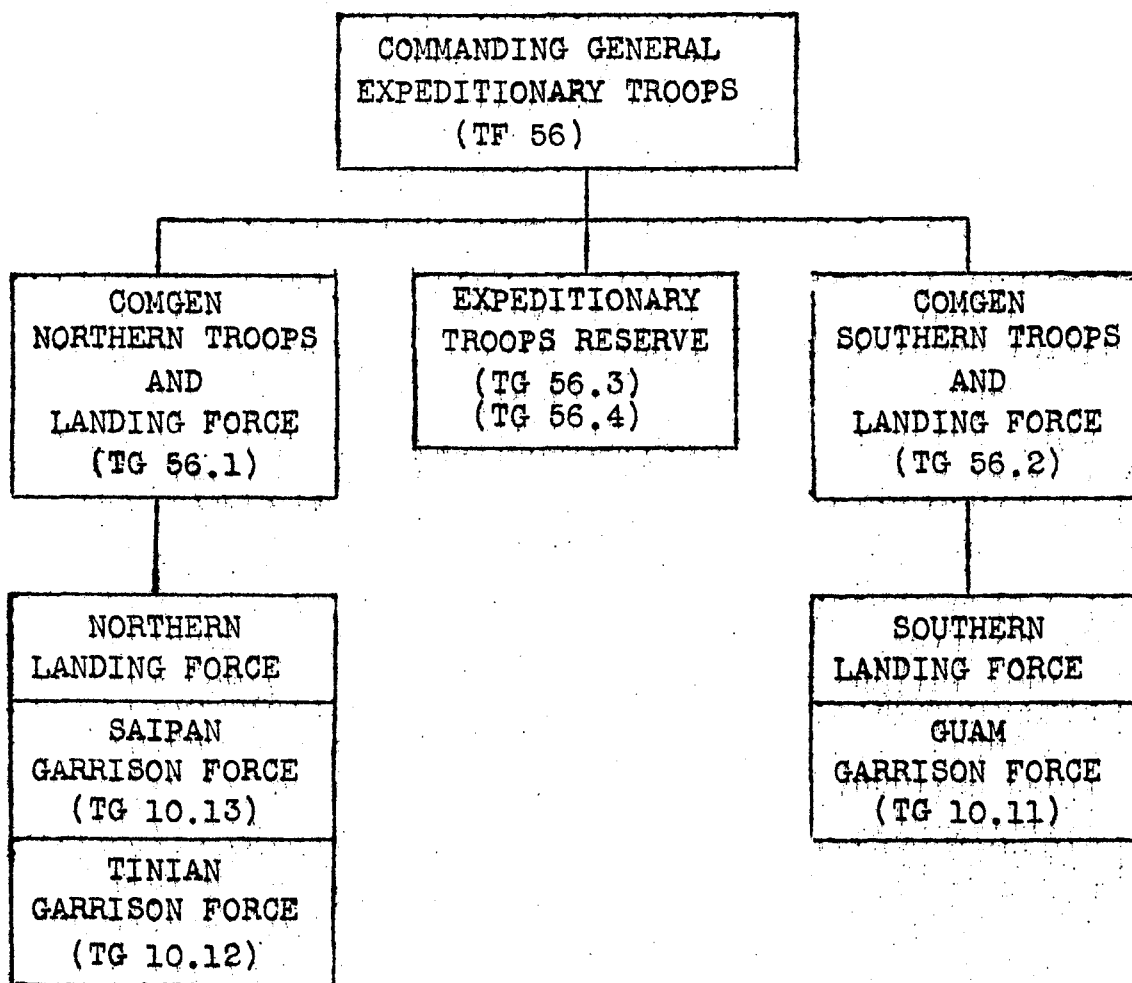
Expeditionary Troops  
Task Force Fifty-Six  
In the Field

26 April 1944

Annex ITEM to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

LANDING FORCE COMMAND RELATIONS

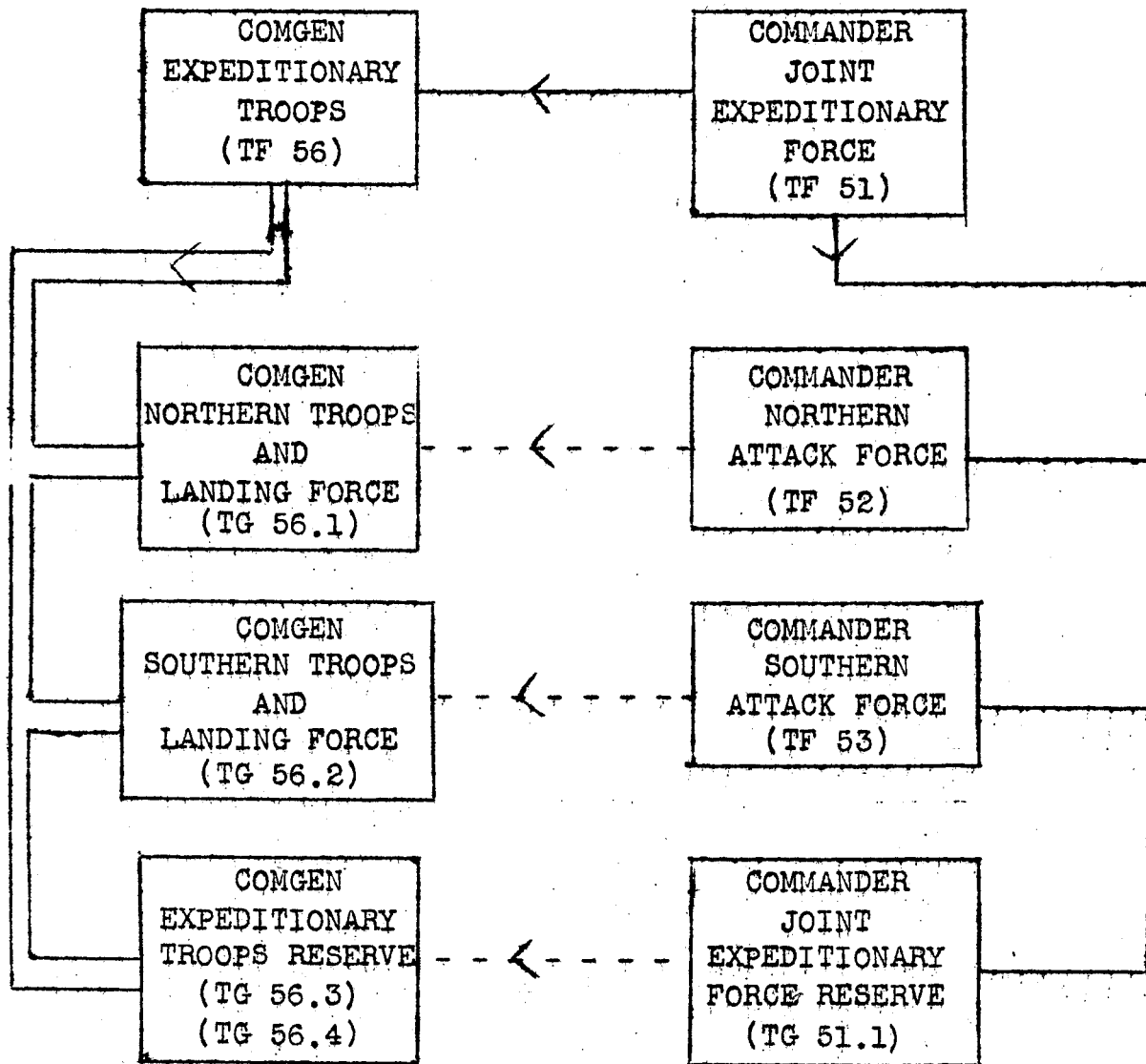
A. EXPEDITIONARY TROOPS



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Annex ITEM to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

B. LANDING FORCE - ATTACK FORCES



\_\_\_\_\_ Overall command of amphibious operations.

===== Command of forces that are ashore.

- - - - - Landing force commanders at each objective subordinate for ship-to-shore operations until assuming command on shore.

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Annex ITEM to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

C. RELATIONS IN DETAIL

1. The Commander Joint Expeditionary Force commands all task organizations employed in the amphibious operations at all objectives through inter-related Attack Force Commanders. The Commanding General Expeditionary Troops will be embarked on the flag-ship of the Commander Joint Expeditionary Force or stationed ashore when the situation requires, and will command all landing and garrison forces that are ashore.

2. At each objective, the related Commander Attack Force or his deputy will command the Landing Force through the related Commander Landing Force or his deputy for ship to shore operations. As soon as the Commander Landing Force determines that the status of the landing operations permits, he will assume command on shore and report that fact to the related Commander Attack Force. For shore to shore operations the landing forces will be under the direct command of Commanders of Landing Forces or deputies and naval craft and supporting forces will be under the direct command of the Naval Commander of the Attack Forces concerned or an officer designated by him. As desired, request for naval gunfire support and air support will be made to the related Commander Attack Force by the Commander of Landing Forces.

3. Landing Forces, as their respective commanders assume command ashore, will be under the overall command of the Commanding General Expeditionary Troops. This officer will retain command of all forces established on each island until the ComCenPac has determined that the capture and occupation phase at each island has been completed. ComCenPac will then direct that the command of all forces at that island pass to the Island Commander.

4. The Island Commander at each objective will assume responsibility for the defense and development of the objectives when directed by ComCenPac.

5. Island Commanders are under command of the Troop and Landing Forces Commanders or their deputies, until withdrawal of assault forces; thereafter they are under direct command of the Commanding General Expeditionary Troops until the latter is relieved of this responsibility. Island Commanders will exercise command over all units of the Garrison Forces, except such as may be temporarily attached to Landing Forces.

Annex ITEM to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

6. The Commanding General Expeditionary Troops is responsible for insuring as much as possible the expeditious execution of the base development work at each objective. The respective Island Commander is primarily responsible for base development and defense will proceed with the development work under Commanding General Expeditionary Troops until the change of command indicated above has been effected.

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Expeditionary Troops  
Task Force Fifty-Six  
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26 April 1944

Annex JIG to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

PASSWORD AND COUNTERSIGN

1. In order to eliminate possible confusion and to facilitate rapid recognition between members of different organizations within Expeditionary Troops, the following system of passwords and countersigns will be employed by all units under this Command.
2. Three key words are assigned and each word will be used for a period of five (5) consecutive days. The password will be changed at 1200 local time on the 6th Day.
3. At the end of the period, the system will be repeated, starting at 1201 local time on the 16th day.
4. Below are listed the key words and the periods of time for which each will be used:

	<u>Key Word</u>
1st day, starting with D-day, through 1200, 6th day.	Months of the year.
1201, 6th day, through 1200, 11th day.	Cities of the U.S.
1201, 11th day, through 1200, 16th day.	States of the U.S.

The challenge, "Halt, who is there?" will be employed.

EXAMPLES:

First 5-day period beginning with D-day (Months of the year).

Challenger: Halt, who is there?

Answer: July (or any other month of the year).

Challenger: April (or any other month of the year).

Second 5-day period beginning at 1201 local, 6th day (Cities).

Challenger: Halt, who is there?

Answer: New York (or any other large city of the U.S.).

Challenger: Los Angeles (or any other large city of the U.S.).

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Annex JIG to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

Third 5-day period beginning at 1201 local, 11th day (States).

Challenger: Halt, who is there?

Answer: Missouri (or any other State of the U.S.).

Challenger: Texas (or any other State of the U.S.).

5. All personnel will be warned that in no case will this code be taken ashore. It must be borne in mind that it is only necessary to memorize the key word corresponding to each 5-day period.

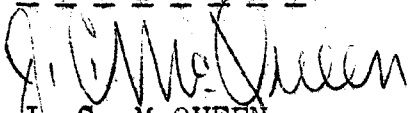
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Expeditionary Troops  
Task Force Fifty-Six  
In the Field

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26 April 1944

Annex KING to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

DISTRIBUTION

COMINCH	(14)	COMGENCEPAC	(5)
CINCPAC	(15)	CMC	(2)
COMCENTPAC	(10)	CINCSWPAC AREA	(2)
COMSOPAC	(10)	ISLAND COMMANDERS	(5 each)
COMPHIBSPAC	(10)	ANSCOL	(2) (a)
COM3DPHIBFOR	(5)	NAVAL WAR COLLEGE	(2) (a)
COMSEAFORPAC	(5)	C&GS SCHOOL, FT LEAVENWORTH	(2) (a)
COMAIRPAC	(5)	MCS	(2) (a)
COMAIRCENPAC	(5)	COMPHIBTRAINPAC	(2) (a)
COMAIRSOPAC	(5)	CG TROOP TRAPAC	(2) (a)
COMAIRFORWARD	(3)	COMPHIBTRAINLANT	(2) (a)
CG IIPHIBCORPS	(10)	5TH MARDIV	(1) (a)
CG NORLANFOR	(10)	7TH FLEET	(1) (a)
CG 27TH INFIDV	(10)	7TH PHIBFOR	(1) (a)
CG 77TH INFIDIV	(10)	WAR DIARY	(1) (a)
MARSUPSER, VAC	(10)	OPERATIONS REPORT	(40) (a)
ADMINCOM5THPHIBFOR	(5)	F I L E	(30)
JICPOA	(2)		

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL HOLLAND M. SMITH.

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Annex KING to Operation Plan No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

(a) To be delivered after Dog-day.

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Expeditionary Troops,  
Task Force Fifty Six,  
In the Field.

26 April, 1944.

~~T O P SECRET~~

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER) To accompany Expeditionary Troops, Task  
NUMBER.....3-44) Force Fifty Six, Operation Plan No. 3-44. -  
(FORAGER).

(Supersedes Expeditionary Troops Administrative Order No. 2-44,  
11 April, 1944).

Maps ) See Expeditionary Troops, Task Force Fifty Six,  
Charts ) Operation Plan No. 3-44. - FORAGER.

Reference: (a) V Amphibious Corps General Order No. 48-44 - SOP -  
Administrative.

1. SUPPLY: Assault and Garrison Forces will carry the  
following combat unit loaded supplies:

Days of Supply to Accompany:

LANDING FORCE

GARRISON FORCE

Includes accompanying  
element of the Garrison  
Force.

Excludes such elements  
as accompany Landing  
Force.

a. Class I.

(1) Rations:

(a) Type "B" Rations	20 days	20 days
(The 10-in-1 pack is authorized for 10 or more days depending on availability).		
(b) Type "C" Rations	7 days	7 days
(c) Type "K" Rations	3 days	3 days
(d) Type "D" Rations	2 days	2 days
(e) Army QM ration accessories pack or equivalent PX and Ship's store supplies.	20 days	30 days

(2) Water:

(a) In cans, drums, or other organizational  
equipment --- 2 gal/man/day - 5 days.

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~~T O P SECRET~~

26 April, 1944.

- (b) Landing Forces will carry distilling apparatus adequate to supply 2 gal/man/day.
- (c) Elements of Landing Forces to be rehabilitated at objective will carry purification apparatus (in addition to distilling apparatus) to provide 5 gal/man/day.
- (d) Garrison Forces (less Landing Forces to be rehabilitated at objective) will carry:
  - 1'. Distilling apparatus adequate to provide: 3 gal/man/day.
  - 2'. Purification apparatus sufficient to provide: 5 gal/man/day.
- (e) All troops will carry 2 (filled) canteens.

Days of Supply to Accompany:

LANDING FORCE

GARRISON FORCE

Includes accompanying element of the Garrison Force.

Excludes such element as accompany Landing Force.

b. Class II.

(1) Essential TBA or TE maintenance items of clothing, equipment and general supplies at absolute minimum.

20 days

30 days

c. Class III.

(1) Fuels and Lubricants (less Avn)

20 days

30 days

d. Class IV.

(1) Chemical Warfare Supplies.

20 days

30 days

(2) Engineer Supplies

20 days

30 days

(a) Construction and Fortification Materials.

Essential Requirements

Initial Requirements as per Base Development Plan to include materials for modified Panama mounts at 1 per each 155mm gun.

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ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NUMBER 3-44 - FORAGER.

26 April, 1944.

(3) Ordnance Supplies.

(a) Armament Maintenance Supplies.

20 days

30 days

(b) Motor Maintenance Supplies.

20 days

30 days

(4) Quartermaster Supplies.

20 days

30 days

(5) Medical Supplies-30 days

30 days

(6) Signal Supplies -20 days

20 days

e. Class V.

(1) Ammunition for Ground Forces.

(a) AA Weapons 10 U/F CinCPOA

10 U/F CinCPOA

(b) All other types

of weapons

7 U/F CinCPOA

5 U/F CinCPOA

f. Method of Combat Supply:

(1) Ship to shore - (Reference (a), Sect. III, par. 3).

(2) Initial Shore based dumps - Annex BAKER.

g. Supplies will be palletized as follows: (Reference (a), Sect. II, Par. 6 and Annex "D").

(1) Class I.

(a) Rations

25% to 50%.

(b) Water (Reference (a),  
Sect. II, Pars.  
5c(6) and 3c(6))

25% to 50% in expedition-  
ary containers.

(2) Class II. As prescribed by Landing Force Commanders.

(3) Class III. 25% to 50% in expeditionary containers.

(4) Class IV. As prescribed by Landing Force Commanders.

(5) Class V. 2 U/F to 5 U/F.

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ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NUMBER 3-44 - FORAGER.

26 April, 1944.

(6) Palletized type "B" rations and palletized medical supplies will be covered with waterproofed paper. - (Reference (a), Sect. II, Par. 6 and Annex "D").

h. Unconsumed supplies at objectives. - (Reference (a), Sect. V, par. 1c)

i. Method of Resupply. - Annex ABLE.

j. Supplies for native population. - (Reference (a), Sect. V, par. 8).

k. Units withdrawn from combat areas for rehabilitation in South Pacific will take:

(1) Organizational equipment (less battle losses).

(2) Personal equipment (less battle losses).

(3) Three (3) days "C", "D", "K", or 10-in-1 type rations.

(4) Ammunition normally carried on the person.

l. Central Pacific units moved from Central Pacific areas to areas in South Pacific will take:

(1) Class I.

(a) Rations.

1'. Type "B" or 10-in-1 rations 5 days.

2'. Type "C" or "K" rations 5 days.

(2) Class III.

(a) Fuel and lubricants. 3 days.

(3) Class II 30 days.

(4) Class IV 30 days.

(5) Class V To be announced later.

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ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NUMBER 3-44.- FORAGER. 26 April, 1944.  
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m. Reports of equipment losses, including vehicles,  
submitted daily as of 1800.

2. EVACUATION.

a. Casualties.

(1) Personnel.

(a) See Annex CHARLIE.

b. Burial.

(1) Instructions. - (Reference (a), Annex "K").

(2) Cemeteries. - As prescribed by Landing Force  
Commanders.

c. Salvage:

(1) Collection, disposition, reports, -(Reference (a),  
Sect. IV, Par. 10,  
Sect. III, Par. 10,  
Sect. V, Par. 6).

(2) Dumps - As prescribed by Landing Force Com-  
manders.

d. Captured materiel.

(1) Collection, disposition, reports, -(Reference (a),  
Sect. III, Par. 11,  
Sect. IV, Par. 11,  
Sect. V, Par. 7).

e. Prisoners of War.

(1) Collecting points. - As prescribed by Landing  
Force Commanders.

(2) Inclosures, stockades, - As prescribed by  
Landing Force Com-  
manders.

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ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NUMBER 3-44.- FORAGER. 26 April, 1944.

(3) Evacuation.

(a) Initially by division or separate units; thence to Landing Force Prisoner of War collecting points.

(b) From Landing Force Prisoner of War Collecting points.- (Reference (a), Sect. III, Par. 6).

(4) Rations, water, transportation will be available at Prisoner of War collecting points.

3. TRAFFIC.

a. Circulation. - (Reference (a), Sect. III, Pars. 7a(1) to 7a(4) inclusive).

b. Restrictions. - (Reference (a), Sect. III, Pars. 7a(5) and 7a(6)).

c. Control.

(1) Traffic Control Points. - As prescribed by Landing Force Commanders.

(2) Officers' Control Stations. - As prescribed by Landing Force Commanders.

d. Construction, marking, maintenance of routes. - Initially by Shore Parties (see pars 1.a.(6), (7), (10), (12), (16)); thereafter by Landing Force Commanders.

4. TRANSPORT.

a. Trains.

(1) Assault Forces. - Limited to those actually required for combat consistent with the expeditious completion of the tactical mission.

(2) Garrison Forces. - Limited to actual requirements for determined mission.

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ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NUMBER 3-44 - FORAGER.

26 April, 1944.

b. Beaches.

(1) Reference (a), Annex "C".

5. PERSONNEL

a. Stragglers.

- (1) Straggler line - As prescribed by Landing Force Commanders.
- (2) Collecting points - As prescribed by Landing Force Commanders.

b. Mail.

(1) Marine Corps Units.

(a) Landing Force Commanders direct to CinCPac, designating Marine Units by organization, date of departure, destinations, ETA at destination, subsequent destination, ETA at subsequent destination.

(2) Army Units.

(a) By notification to appropriate Army channels.

c. Shelter.

(1) Assignment as directed by Landing Force Commanders.

(2) Quartering parties as directed by Landing Force Commanders.

(3) Housing.

(a) Assault Troops to be withdrawn from the combat area.

1'. No heavy tentage except for personnel of field grade or over.

(b) Assault troops to be rehabilitated in the combat area.

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ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NUMBER 3-44 - FORAGER.

26 April, 1944.

- 1'. Initially no heavy tentage except for personnel of field grade or over.
- 2'. Heavy tentage for all personnel will be shipped to arrive not prior to D / 60 days.

(c) Garrison Troops and Units.

- 1'. Normal heavy tentage is authorized.
- 2'. No prefabricated housing or materials for housing will be carried.
- 3'. Prefabricated housing or materials for housing will be shipped to arrive not prior to D / 60 days.

d. Strength Reports.

- (1) G-1 Periodic Reports submitted daily as of 1800.

e. Casualty Reports.

- (1) Casualty Reports submitted daily as of 1800.

f. Replacements.

(1) Replacements to assault units during assault phase other than by organic units will not be provided.

(2) Marine units remaining in combat area for rehabilitation receive replacements from assault units leaving combat area as directed by Commanding General, Expeditionary Troops, Task Force Fifty Six.

(3) Marine units leaving combat area requisition replacements on return to base areas.

(4) Army units leaving combat area requisition replacements on return to base areas through appropriate Army channels.

g. Records.

(1) Marine Corps personnel evacuated from combat zone will be transferred by staff returns as directed by Landing Force Commanders.

(2) Naval personnel as directed by Landing Force Commanders.

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26 April, 1944.  
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(3) Army personnel as directed by ComGenCenPac.

(4) Two (2) copies of all embarkation rosters to Marine Administrative Command, V Amphibious Corps.

h. Payment of Troops.

(1) As directed by Landing Force Commanders.

(2) Only Hawaiian Series, U.S. currency authorized.

i. Civil Affairs.

(1) See Annex DOG.

6. MISCELLANEOUS.

a. Rear Echelon of Expeditionary Troops, Task Force Fifty Six: Headquarters: To be announced.

b. Miscellaneous administrative matters.

(1) Uniform and individual equipment.

(a) Assault troops, including regimental reserve, land with combat packs only.

(b) Division reserves, Landing Force reserves, and garrison troops not landing as assault troops will land with full packs.

(c) All troops land with the following: .

1'. Gas mask.

2'. Two (2) full canteens (water).

(d) One (1) sea bag or barracks bag will be taken as directed by Landing Force Commanders.

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- 1'. Contents of sea bags or barracks bags will be limited to the absolute minimum consistent with the contemplated employment of the troops.
- (2) Trunk lockers, foot lockers, clothing rolls, bedding rolls.
  - (a) Trunk lockers or foot lockers authorized flag or general officers only.
  - (b) Officers authorized one (1) clothing roll and one (1) bedding roll or the equivalent.
- (3) Organizational equipment, TBA or TE.
  - (a) Major items of equipment as authorized (Reference (a) Sect. II, Par. 3.a.(8)).
  - (b) Excess TBA or TE equipment.
    - 1'. See reference (a), Sect. II, par. 3.a.(b).
  - (c) Storage of property.
    - 1'. See reference (a) Sect. II, par. 9.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL HOLLAND M. SMITH:

G. B. ERSKINE,  
BrigGen., U.S. Marine Corps,  
Chief of Staff.

DISTRIBUTION: Same as Expeditionary Troops, Task Force Fifty Six Operation Plan 3-44.- FORAGER.

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ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NUMBER 3-44.- FORAGER. 26 April, 1944.  
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O F F I C I A L:

*Raymond E. Knapp*  
RAYMOND E. KNAPP,  
Colonel, USMC,  
ACofS, G-4.

Annexes:

ABLE - Supply Plan.

BAKER - Engineer Shore Party Plan.

CHARLIE - Medical Plan.

DOG - Civil Affairs Plan.

1990-5-5  
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Expeditionary Troops,  
Task Force Fifty Six,  
In the Field.

26 April, 1944.

Annex ABLE to EXPEDITIONARY TROOPS, TASK FORCE FIFTY SIX,  
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

(Supersedes Annex ABLE to Expeditionary Troops Administrative Order No. 2-44, April 11, 1944).

Reference: (a) V Amphibious Corps General Order No. 48-44 -  
SOP - Administrative.

SUPPLY PLAN

1. SUPPLY.

a. ALL CLASSES.

(1) Landing Force Commanders are responsible for resupply and replenishment of all classes of supply during the twenty (20) days following the initial landing except for the following supplies:

(a) Class I (less Army QM ration accessories pack or equivalent PX and Ship's store supplies).  
(See par. 1.a.(1)(e) Administrative Order No. 3-44).

(b) Medical Supplies:  
(See par. 1.d.(5) Administrative Order No. 3-44).

(c) Class V. (Ammunition).

(2) Emergency resupply of all classes of supply will be made available in the area on call.

b. Class I (Rations).

(1) SUPPLY POINTS:

(a) SOUTHERN Troops and Landing Force -  
5th Field Depot opens about D + 20 serving all units.

(b) NORTHERN Troops and Landing Force - 7th  
Field Depot opens about D + 20 serving all units.

(2) Post Exchange component issued gratuitously with Ration to and including D + 90.

c. Class II, III, and IV.

(1) Same as b. above.

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Annex ABLE to Expeditionary Troops, Task Force Fifty Six,  
Administrative Order No. 3-44 - FORAGER.  
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d. Class V (Ammunition).

(1) Same as b. above except Field Depots will be prepared to issue all types of ground ammunition about D /5.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL HOLLAND M. SMITH:

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BrigGen., U.S. Marine Corps,  
Chief of Staff.

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O F F I C I A L:

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Expeditionary Troops,  
Task Force Fifty Six,  
In the Field.

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Annex BAKER to EXPEDITIONARY TROOPS, TASK FORCE FIFTY SIX,  
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

(Supersedes Annex BAKER to Expeditionary Troops Administrative Order  
No. 2-44, April 11, 1944.)

Reference: (a) V Amphibious Corps General Order No. 48-44 - SOP -  
Administrative.

SHORE PARTY PLAN

1. Landing Force Commanders will be responsible for the  
conduct of shore party activities.
2. Shore parties will be provided from the following:
  - a. Organic pioneer battalions.
  - b. Naval Construction Battalions.
  - c. Other attached units.
3. The organization and functioning of shore parties will  
be in accordance with the provisions of reference (a), Annex "C".

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL HOLLAND M. SMITH:

G. B. ERSKINE,  
BrigGen., U.S. Marine Corps  
Chief of Staff.

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Operation Plan 3-44. - FORAGER.

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Expeditionary Troops,  
Task Force Fifty Six,  
In the Field.

26 April, 1944.

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Annex CHARLIE to EXPEDITIONARY TROOPS, TASK FORCE FIFTY SIX,  
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

(Supersedes Annex CHARLIE to Expeditionary Troops Administrative  
Order No. 2-44, April 11, 1944.)

Reference: (a) V Amphibious Corps General Order No. 48-44 - SOP -  
Administrative.

MEDICAL PLAN

1. SUPPLY.

a. Medical detachments and units of assault forces and  
elements of other forces accompanying assault forces will carry  
medical supplies for thirty (30) days.

(1) Medical supplies will be furnished by the  
normal supply agencies at ports from which the troops embark;

(a) Administrative Commanders in the Central  
Pacific Area.

(b) ComSoPac for initial supply for troops  
mounted in that area.

b. Resupply from ships and medical supply ashore;  
(Reference (a), Annex "J", Section VIII.)

c. Maintenance stock of Combat Medical Supplies,  
thirty (30) days for 115,000 men, in blocks of thirty (30) days for  
3,000 men: Available in FLINTLOCK Area on D - Day.

2. EVACUATION.

a. Assault forces will include adequate medical units  
for immediate treatment of casualties, in addition to normal  
attached medical personnel.

b. Surface evacuation of sick and wounded during the  
assault phase and until relinquishment of control: Commander Joint  
Expeditionary Force.

(1) Surface evacuation supplemented by air evac-  
uation as rapidly as facilities can be established.

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26 April, 1944.

Annex CHARLIE to Expeditionary Troops, Task Force Fifty Six,  
Administrative Order No. 3-44 - FORAGER.

c. Air evacuation during the assault phase established as soon as practicable under the control of ComAirCenPac.

d. Evacuation Policy: (Reference (a), Section III, Par. 4).

(1) During the assault phase:

(a) Own troops and POW's: - Immediate evacuation.

(b) Civilians: - Retained ashore except when immediate operation is required to save life.

3. HOSPITALIZATION.

a. Hospitalization ashore will be in Field Hospitals until hospitals are provided by Garrison Forces.

(1) Troop casualties who can be returned to duty in thirty (30) days will be retained ashore in field hospitals.

(2) Civilian casualties other than those indicated in par. 2d(1)(b) will be retained ashore in field hospitals.

4. SANITATION.

a. During the assault phase, responsibility for sanitation rests with the local Landing Force Commanders who will require the maximum sanitary discipline commensurate with combat conditions. (Reference (a), Section III, Par. 5).

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL HOLLAND M. SMITH;

G. B. ERSKINE,  
BrigGen., U.S. Marine Corps.  
Chief of Staff.

DISTRIBUTION: Same as Expeditionary Troops, Task Force Fifty Six,  
Operation Plan 3-44. - FORAGER.

OFFICIAL:

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Expeditionary Troops, Task Force  
Fifty Six, In the Field.

26 April, 1944.

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ANNEX DOG to EXPEDITIONARY TROOPS, TASK FORCE FIFTY SIX ADMIN-  
ISTRATIVE ORDER NUMBER 3-44. (FORAGER).

Reference: (a) V Amphibious Corps General Order No. 48-44 - SOP -  
Administrative.

CIVIL AFFAIRS PLAN

1. Civil Affairs Officers will function as special Staff Officers in accordance with principles enunciated in Field Manual 101-5.

- a. Economic policy: See par. 1.a. of Appendix No. 1 to Annex DOG of Expeditionary Troops, Task Force Fifty Six Administrative Order No. 3-44.- (FORAGER).
- b. Policies concerning native or enemy labor: See par. 1.b. and par. 2. of Appendix No. 1 to Annex DOG of Expeditionary Troops, Task Force Fifty Six Administrative Order No. 3-44.- (FORAGER).
- c. Financial directives: See par. 3. of Appendix No. 1 to Annex DOG of Expeditionary Troops, Task Force Fifty Six Administrative Order No. 3-44. - (FORAGER).

2. Civil Affairs Officers attached to assault units, upon completion of the assault phase, will, when directed by Landing Force Commanders, be assigned for temporary duty to the staff of Island Commanders.

a. Upon completion of temporary duty assignment, Civil Affairs Officers will revert to control of Landing Force Commanders.

3. Civil Affairs matters will be administered within occupied territory by Landing Force Commanders in accordance with the following:

26 April, 1944.

Annex DOG to Expeditionary Troops, Task Force Fifty Six Administrative Order Number 3-44. (FORAGER).

- a. Field Manual 27-5 (OpNav 50E-3).
  - b. CinCPac and CinCPOA directives.
4. Landing Force Commanders will be responsible in their respective zones of action for the following:
- a. Intern civilian population.
  - b. Segregate civilian population.
  - c. Safeguard civilian population.
  - d. Conserve public property.
  - e. Conserve private property.
5. Non-Allied personnel will be considered prisoners of war and treated as such until their exact status is determined.
- a. Non-Allied personnel will be processed as prescribed in reference (a). (Sect. III, par. 6.a.) (Sect. IV, par. 8.a.)
6. Enemy food stocks, private property and public property will not be unnecessarily destroyed or mutilated.
7. Archives and government records of the occupied territory will be seized and handled in accordance with the provisions of reference (a). (Sect. IV, pars. 11.a.b.) (Sect. V, par. 7.b.)
8. Clothes of Prisoners of War will not be removed except in cases of extreme emergency.
- a. Troops will be properly instructed in the searching and guarding of Prisoners of War.
9. Personal possessions of Prisoners of War will not be seized if they are not of intelligence value and hazardous to peace or good order.
- a. Confiscated articles will be handled in accordance with the provisions of reference (a). (Sect. III, par. 11.a) (Sect. IV, pars. 11.a. 11.b.)
10. Female and children internees will be segregated from males if appropriate.
11. Labor groups will be formed as directed by Landing Force Commanders in accordance with CinCPac directive.

26 April, 1944.

Annex DOG to Expeditionary Troops, Task Force Fifty Six Administrative Order Number 3-44. (FORAGER).

a. Civilian labor for the burial of dead is authorized.

12. Relief supplies will be distributed to internees to meet minimum standards of occupied territory.

13. Medical aid will be rendered to meet minimum standards of occupied territory.

14. Captured food stocks, clothing and enemy civilian goods will be conserved in order to facilitate re-establishment of law and order among the civilian population.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL HOLLAND M. SMITH:

G. B. ERSKINE,  
BrigGen., U. S. Marine Corps,  
Chief of Staff.

DISTRIBUTION: Same as Expeditionary Troops, Task Force Fifty Six Administrative Order No. 3-44.- (FORAGER).

O F F I C I A L:

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Expeditionary Troops, Task Force  
Fifty Six, In the Field.

26 April, 1944.

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APPENDIX #1 to ANNEX DOG to EXPEDITIONARY TROOPS, TASK FORCE  
FIFTY SIX ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NUMBER 3-44. - (FORAGER).

- References:
- (a) V Amphibious Corps General Order 48-44 - SOP - Administrative.
  - (b) Extracts from CinCPac Secret Serial 00708, dated 14 February, 1944.
  - (c) Extracts from CinCPac Secret Serial 00524, dated 18 January, 1944.
  - (d) Extracts from CinCPac Secret Serial 00526, dated 18 January, 1944.

1. Economic Directive (Reference (b)).

a. Economic Policy for Occupied Territory.

(1) The basic economic policy for occupied territory will be:

(a) To restore a normal degree of self-sufficiency.

(b) To assure the provisioning and health of the local population.

(c) To reduce the needs for relief from the United States.

(d) To ascertain that remaining productive resources are devoted to the production of goods useful to the war effort.

(2) The Area Commander (the term "Area Commander" refers to CinCPOA with delegation of authority to act i.e., Landing Force Commander) is authorized to furnish necessary supplies to populace as follows:

(a) Supplies that have been allocated for that purpose. (Ref. (a), Sect. V par. 8.b.)

(b) Supplies that are available in the occupied area.

(c) Supplies that can be diverted from stocks allocated to the military forces to the extent that the military situation permits.

26 April, 1944.

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Appendix #1 to Annex DOG to Expeditionary Troops, Task Force  
Fifty Six Administrative Order Number 3-44. - (FORAGER).  
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1'. When feasible, supplies will be offered for sale under military supervision, through commercial channels. (See Ref. (a), Sect. V. par. 8,c).

(3) Rationing of commodities and ceiling prices will be established if required.

(a) Appropriate measures will be taken to prevent black market operation and hoarding.

(4) The following will be restored to use as soon as possible:

(a) Public Utilities.

(b) All types of transportation facilities.

(c) Inter-Island shipping.

Territory.      b. Policies Concerning Native Labor in Occupied

(1) Native inhabitants are not considered enemy nationals.

(a) Employment presents no special legal problem.

(b) Natives may be employed or native labor requisitioned on any project consistent with military security.

(c) Koreans and non-enemy Asiatics are considered as native labor.

(2) Enemy nationals can be utilized for labor in accordance with international law.

(a) The Annex to the Hague Convention Number 4 of October 18, 1907, embodies the regulations pertaining to laws and customs of land warfare.

(b) Regulations of the convention provide that enemy nationals may not be required to work on military projects.



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26 April, 1944.

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Appendix #1 to Annex DOG to Expeditionary Troops, Task Force  
Fifty Six Administrative Order Number 3-44. - (FORAGER).  
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1'. Enemy nationals may, however, be employed on military projects on a purely voluntary basis for pay.

(c) Enemy nationals may be hired or requisitioned with pay for non military projects.

(3) It is desirable that employment of natives be on a voluntary basis.

(a) In the event of acute labor shortages, labor requisitioning of native inhabitants and other non-enemy Asiatics may be resorted to.

(b) Employment on a voluntary basis may include employment on a contract labor basis in accordance with local custom.

(c) Labor contracts may be made between the cognizant army or naval officer and the leaders or chiefs of the several groups of native inhabitants, non-enemy Asiatics, or enemy nationals.

(d) To the extent customary, where contract labor prevails, payments will be made to the leaders or chieftains of the several groups employed.

(e) All possible measures will be taken to insure that laborers receive their proper payment.

(f) Individuals or group representatives with grievances, have the right to appeal to the cognizant officers.

(g) Families will not be separated or natives removed from their homes except in extreme instances.

(4) Discrimination in conditions of employment will not be permitted.

(a) There is no implication that conditions of employment of the different racial groups or in the several areas will be identical.

(b) Religious tabus preventing normal conditions of work, will be respected.

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26 April, 1944.

Appendix #1 to Annex DOG to Expeditionary Troops, Task Force  
Fifty Six Administrative Order Number 3-44. - (FORAGER).

(c) Customary hours of work and working conditions will be observed.

(5) Equal pay for equal output in any given area will prevail.

(a) Compensation may be either in the form of cash payments or supplies or a combination of both.

(b) Care will be exercised that all wage payments are adjusted regularly to assure a minimum standard of living to the ultimate recipients, recognizing the following:

1'. The possibility of increased cost of living on account of the introduction of new currency.

2'. Change in the cost of imported commodities.

3'. Expenditures by the Armed Forces.

(6) Medical care will be provided to all employees on military or official projects.

2. Native Labor in Central Pacific Islands to be Occupied. (Reference (c)),

a. Central Pacific Islands now under Japanese sovereignty will, when occupied, be administered under a military government to be established by the occupying forces.

b. Services of the inhabitants of an occupied enemy area may be requisitioned for the needs of the forces of occupation.

(1) Inhabitants may not be compelled to work on military installations.

(a) There is no objection to inhabitants being employed on military works on a voluntary basis for hire.

c. Native labor, and that of any civilian Japanese permitted to remain in the area, will be utilized to the fullest extent consistent with military security.

~~TOP SECRET~~

26 April, 1944.

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Appendix #1 to Annex DOG to Expeditionary Troops, Task Force  
Fifty Six Administrative Order Number 3-44. - (FORAGER).  
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d. The policy will be to utilize natives as paid labor on a voluntary basis.

(1) Native labor should not be requisitioned except in cases of emergency.

(2) Civilian Japanese labor may be hired or requisitioned as needed.

3. Financial Directive, Central Pacific Areas.  
(Reference (d)).

a. Currency to be used during the period of occupation will be:

(1) United States Notes of the Hawaiian Series.

(2) Regular United States Coins.

b. Upon occupation a proclamation will be issued declaring United States Currency, Hawaiian Series, legal tender in the Area Occupied.

c. The exchange rate between United States Currency, Hawaiian Series and any Japanese Yen Currency will be One Dollar for Twenty Yen, until further notice.

(1) A proclamation will be issued prohibiting transactions at any other than the established exchange rate by either the local population or personnel of the armed forces.

d. Appropriate records will be kept of all financial transactions involved in the administration of the Islands.

e. Yen Currency surrendered, (captured or converted) and any other foreign currency acquired by the occupying forces will be held in safe custody until transfer may be effected to the Fleet Supply Officer.

(1) Information as to amounts on hand will be submitted to CinCPOA.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL HOLLAND M. SMITH:

G. B. ERSKINE,  
BrigGen., U. S. Marine Corps,  
Chief of Staff.

26 April, 1944.

-----  
Appendix #1 to Annex DOG to Expeditionary Troops, Task Force  
Fifty Six Administrative Order Number 3-44. - (FORAGER).  
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DISTRIBUTION: Same as Expeditionary Troops, Task Force Fifty Six  
Administrative Order No. 3-44. - (FORAGER).

O F F I C I A L:

*Raymond E. Knapp*

RAYMOND E. KNAPP,  
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ACofS. G-4.

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# Headquarters Expeditionary Troops Task Force 56

Report By G-5

On

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Forager

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HEADQUARTERS,  
FLEET MARINE FORCE, PACIFIC,  
FLEET POST OFFICE, SAN FRANCISCO.

25 August 1944.

~~SECRET~~ T

From: The Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.  
To: The Commanding General.  
Subject: G-5 report of Expeditionary Troops (Task Force 56) for the FORAGER Operation.

1. The G-5 report of Expeditionary Troops for the FORAGER Operation, covering tactical planning for the assault from inception until promulgation of the operation plan, is submitted herein.

2. Expeditionary Troops planning for the operation began with the receipt of the directive of 15 February 1944 from the Commander in Chief, Pacific Ocean Areas, to start preparations for the GYMKHANA-ROADMAKER Operation with a tentative target date of 15 June. Troops participating were to be designated after completion of then current operations in the MARSHALLS. The plans for FORAGER were a development of those for GYMKHANA-ROADMAKER, involving a change of objectives, much as FLINTLOCK II developed from the original FLINTLOCK plans. The two plans were for a time evolved simultaneously, from 22 February, when the Joint Staff Preliminary Concept for FORAGER was received, until 20 March, when CinCPac issued the FORAGER warning order. As early as 29 February a conference was held by planners at the headquarters of the Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet, on the tactical aspects of FORAGER. In anticipation of the warning order of 20 March, by which time the preliminary draft of the Joint Staff Study for FORAGER had been received on 8 March, as well as CinCPac's instructions of 13 March to assign the highest priority to planning for that operation, a rough operation plan for FORAGER had been completed on 14 March which formed a basis for the final Expeditionary Troops plan.

3. The FORAGER warning order, received on 21 March, designated the following troop units for the operation:

Expeditionary Troops, ComGen VPhibCorps.

I MAC, ComGen I MAC

3d MarDiv  
4th Marines (reinforced)  
22d Marines (reinforced)  
2 defense battalions  
I MAC 155mm gun battalion  
All available I MAC LVT battalions

VPhibCorps

2d MarDiv  
4th MarDiv  
27th InfDiv  
2 Marine defense battalions  
2 Army defense battalions  
1 Army 90mm AA battalion  
Defense and auxiliary troops

Reserve (in HAWAII)

77th InfDiv

The I MAC units were to be mounted in the SOUTH PACIFIC area; all others in the HAWAIIAN area.

4. On the same day a rough draft of Expeditionary Troops Operation Plan No. 1-44 with its Task Organization Annex and Command Relations Annex was prepared, and later frequently revised in the light of studies of the situation. The phasing of the assault was a matter of particular study and conference during this period. A task organization annex was used in lieu of listing the task organization in its usual place in the plan. This practice was dictated by frequent changes, often until a late date, in the designation of units assigned, and afforded a simple method of making such changes in the plan. The designation of units of the garrison forces to accompany the assault was subject to frequent change, since allocation was controlled by the shipping available for the assault, which was itself subject to change.

5. a. CinCPOA's Joint Staff Study of FORAGER was received on 25 March. The tasks (as modified by Change No. 1 of 4 April) were:

- (1) Capture, occupy and defend TINIAN, SAIPAN and GUAM and develop bases in these islands.

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- (2) Prepare to capture, occupy and defend and develop an additional secondary base in the Western CAROLINES using forces provided in Task (1).
- (3) Gain control of the remaining JAPANESE MARIANNAS.

b. The assault forces required were set forth as follows:

(1) From HAWAII

Corps artillery  
2d Marine Division  
4th Marine Division  
27th Infantry Division  
77th Infantry Division (alerted)

(2) From SOUTH PACIFIC

Corps artillery  
3d Marine Division  
4th Marine Combat Team  
22d Marine Combat Team

6. a. Expeditionary Troops Tentative Operation Plan No. 2-44 FORAGER for the accomplishment of Task (1) in paragraph 5 above was issued on 11 April with limited distribution to subordinate units for planning purposes.

b. The plan assigned tasks under Expeditionary Troops (Command and Staff from V Amphibious Corps) as follows: Capture, occupy and defend SAIPAN, GUAM and TINIAN and develop bases in these islands:

- (1) Northern Troops and Landing Force (Command and Staff from V Amphibious Corps), composed of the 2d and 4th Marine Divisions (reinforced), XXIV Army Corps Artillery, Corps troops and elements of garrison units: Capture SAIPAN (Phase I) and TINIAN (Phase III).
- (2) Southern Troops and Landing Force (Command and Staff from III Amphibious Corps),



[REDACTED]

composed of 3d Marine Division (reinforced), 1st Provisional Marine Brigade (reinforced), III Amphibious Corps Artillery, Corps troops and elements of garrison units: Capture GUAM (Phase II). Between directives the title of the I Marine Amphibious Corps had been changed to III Amphibious Corps.

- (3) Expeditionary Troops Reserve, composed of 27th Infantry Division. The 77th Infantry Division was to be alerted in HAWAII about D plus 25.

c. This was a revision of plan No. 1-44 mentioned previously.

7. Expeditionary Troops Operation Plan No. 3-44 FORAGER, superseding Expeditionary Troops Operation Plan No. 2-44 dated 11 April, was issued on 26 April with normal distribution after approval by Commander Joint Expeditionary Force. The plan was not at this time however, in its final form, and was subject to revision and modification in the annexes until as late as 14 May. The necessity for this arose principally from changes in the task organization and changes in provisions dependent upon the plans of other commands, such as naval gunfire support, air support and command relations.

8. As for the FLINTLOCK Operation, the planning for FORAGER was complicated by the mounting of units in widely separated areas. This necessitated personal contact between headquarters in the HAWAIIAN and SOUTH PACIFIC areas, which, while proven effective, is less so than when planning agencies are in the same locality. The Commanding General III Amphibious Corps and members of his staff were at PEARL for planning purposes from 29 March to 7 April.

9. Beginning with the GALVANIC Operation, and emphasized during the planning stage of FLINTLOCK, it became apparent that an orderly planning schedule based on D-day would be of considerable benefit. Such a schedule would set the dates for important events, including the following:

- a. The dates of attachments of units for operational control.
- b. The dates of issuance of operation plans and orders of the various echelons.

- c. The time of reporting of island and garrison force commanders

10. The Commanding General, V Amphibious Corps, recommended, soon after FLINTLOCK, a planning schedule prepared in considerable detail and although some of its features have been followed in general, no guide has been published by higher authority to correlate the activities of the various planning agencies and thus enable the planning effort itself to be planned methodically.

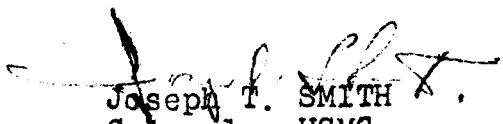
11. The normal time sequence of planning from the highest echelon down, echelon by echelon, each subordinate basing his own plan on his immediate superior's previously issued plan, was not entirely achieved for FORAGER, as indeed it was not for FLINTLOCK. In some cases the plans of different echelons were developed concurrently, and in others the subordinate's preceded his superior's in point of time. The following list is typical:

Pacific Fleet	Operation Plan No. 3-44 23 April 1944.
Central Pacific Task Forces	Operation Plan Com FIFTH Fleet No. Cen 10-44 12 May 1944.
Joint Expeditionary Force	Operation Plan No. A10-44 6 May 1944.
Expeditionary Troops	Operation Plan No. 3-44 26 April 1944.
Northern Troops and Landing Force	Operation Plan No. 3-44 1 May 1944.
Southern Troops and Landing Force	Operation Plan No. 1-44 11 May 1944.

12. The measure of success attained in planning the operation was possible only by reason of the close and unstinted cooperation and coordination given by those concerned in all agencies and echelons. The peculiar problems involved and the special procedures required for their solution are probably no better illustrated than in the relations between Joint Expeditionary Force and Expeditionary Troops during the preparation of their respective operation

plans, when continuous personal contact and frequent conferences were the rule, and were particularly indispensable because of the mutual agreements necessary between the commander of the attack force and the commanding general of troops.

13. On 12 July 1944, pursuant to a directive from the Commander in Chief, Pacific Ocean Areas, Lieutenant General Holland M. Smith, USMC, assumed command of Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, and continued in command of Expeditionary Troops FORAGER (TF 56). On 14 August, in accordance with orders of Commander FIFTH Fleet, Lieutenant General Smith was released from command of Expeditionary Troops FORAGER (TF 56) and the task force dissolved as of that date. Staff personnel of TF 56 were assigned to Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, on the same date.

  
Joseph T. SMITH  
Colonel, USMC,  
ACofS, G-5.

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